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No. 51,309—New Series. BOMBAY :—THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1898.

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Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1898.
P.M.S. ARABIA	8000	J. L. Parfitt	21st May.
† CLYDE	4099	C. T. Denny	28th "
P.M.S. CALEDONIA	7358	E. H. Gorlon	4th June.
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	11th "
P.M.S. ORIENTAL	5284	J. P. Jephson	18th "
† BENGAL	4656	L. Wibmer	25th "
*M.L. CARTHAGE	5287		2d July.
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	9th "
P.M.S. EGYPT	8000	R. F. Briscoe	16th "
† CLYDE	4099	C. T. Denny	23rd "
P.M.S. ARABIA	8000	J. L. Parfitt	30th "
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	6th Aug.
*M.L. SHANNON	4362	F. Cole	13th "
† CLYDE	4099	C. T. Denny	20th "
*M.L. CALEDONIA	7588	W. B Andrews	27th "
† GANGES	4352	T. F. Creery	3rd Sept.
*M.L. CARTHAGE	5287		10th "
† CLYDE	4099	C. T. Denny	17th "
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Bombay, 18th May, 1898.

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Steamer	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on
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POSEIDON	R. Mayer	3,678	1st July 1898.

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TRIESTE, or VENICE	Rs. 600	Rs. 325	Rs. 150

Steamers for BOMBAY leave TRIESTE on the 3rd, and BRINDISI, on the 4th of each month.

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Steamers.	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
TRIESTE	A. Mitis	5,095	12th June 1898.
MARQUIS BRUQUEHEM	G. Wallusching	5,499	12th Jul 1898.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	2nd Class.	Deck.
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THE Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return by the Messageries Maritimes Co. at reduced fares. This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on 3 months' privilege leave.

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Steamer	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on or about
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Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on Tuesday.
INDUS	6,000	Vaquier	7th June 1898.
YARRA	4,255	Colspellier	5th July 1898.
CALEDONIEN	4,252	Durrande	2nd Aug. 1898.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, JAPAN, AND AUSTRALIA.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail on or about the
OCEANIEN	4,249	Schmitz	2nd June, 1898

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The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

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FOR KURRACHI AND PERSIAN GULF.

S.S. "AMRA," 535 tons, at 10 a. m., on the 19th May, calling at Kurrachi, Gwadur, Muscat, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bushire, Fao, Mohomra and Busreh, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR ADEN, LAMOO, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S.S. "CANARA," 1,902 tons, on or about 19th May, 1898.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S.S. "PATNA," 1,797 tons, on or about 20th May, 1898.

FOR ZANZIBAR AND DELAGOA BAY.

S.S. "KERBELA," 1,961 tons, on or about 23rd May, calling at Zanzibar, Delagoabay, Beira, and Mozambique, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

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FOR MAY, 1898.
SPECIAL TIME AND FARE TABLES
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IN TO-MORROW'S ISSUE

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Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To sail.
S. S. CITY OF PERTH...	2,635	J. Wilson	1st June.

THIS STEAMER is lighted throughout with the Electric Light, and has all the latest improvements, carries a Surgeon and Stewardess. Two Berth Cabins on Deck.

Punkahs and every comfort for First-class Passengers. Apply to—

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THE ASSOCIATED EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED on TUESDAY, the 24th May, 1898, a Public Holiday under the "Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881."

BANK OF BOMBAY.

THE BANK will be CLOSED on TUESDAY, the 24th instant, that day being a Public Holiday under the "Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Bombay, 17th May, 1898.

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FOR

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Beautiful Italian Grey Hounds (dog and bitch), nine months old. Also one English Grey Hound Pup. To be seen at their Auction Rooms.

SALE OF VALUABLE IMMOVEABLE PROPERTIES AT CAVEL STREET AND AT MAHIM.

Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co. will sell by Public Auction, on the respective premises, on the undermentioned dates, by order of the mortgagees, Bai Hamabai, widow of Dadabhoy Merwanjee Olpajee, and Framjee Dadabhoy Olpajee, by virtue of a mortgage deed, dated 23rd March, 1893, and a deed of further charge, dated 8th April, 1896, and on account and at the risk of Luis Antonio Pereira, the mortgagor, or his estate,

THIS DAY, THURSDAY, the 19th May, 1898, at 4-30 p.m.

LOT No. 1.

Firstly,—All that piece of Pazandari land or ground, together with a messuage or dwelling-house standing thereon, situate on the west side of Cavel Street, in the Cart called or known by the name of Carwar, without the Fort of Bombay, in the Registration sub-district of Bombay, containing by admeasurement about 1186·9 one hundred and forty and six-ninths square yards and registered in the book of the Collector of Municipal Assessment under C Ward No 3748, street No. 95, Cavel Street, and bounded on the east by a public passage, Cavel street, on the west by the property formerly of Philip Marcus, but now belonging to Dominico Rozario Gonsalves, on the north by the property formerly of Anna Martinha, but now belonging to Jose Januario de Souza, and on the south by a public passage.

To-morrow FRIDAY, the 20th May, 1898, at 4-30 p.m.

LOT No. 2.

Secondly.—All that piece of Forsa land, situate in the city of Bombay, on the east side of B. B. & C. I. Railway aforesaid, containing by admeasurement about 10,110 (ten thousand one hundred and ten) square yards, and registered under Collector's old No 181, new No. 1930, and new Survey No. 1-280, in the Registration sub-district of Bombay, and bounded on the east by the old G.I.P. Railway line, on the west by the said B.B. and C.I. Railway, on the north by the property of Jaitha Nagoo Bhundaree, and on the south by the property of Ruttonjee Dhunjibhoy.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to Messrs. Nanu and Hormusjee, Solicitors to the mortgagees, or to the undersigned.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.

Bombay, 19th May, 1898.

NOTICES.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

DISCONTINUANCE OF ADDITIONAL LOCAL TRAINS BETWEEN BOMBAY AND COORLA AND BOMBAY AND THANNA.

THE Public is informed that the following additional Local Trains now running between Bombay and Coorla and between Bombay and Thanna on WEEK DAYS will be DISCONTINUED on and from FRIDAY next, the twentieth of May, 1898.

TRAINS BETWEEN BOMBAY AND COORLA.

DOWN TRAINS.	H M	H M	UP TRAINS.	H M	H M
Bombay .....Dep.	8 35	18 45	Coorla .....Dep.	9 30	20 0
Coorla .....Arri.	9 15	19 25	Bombay ....Arr.	10 10	20 40

TRAINS BETWEEN BOMBAY AND THANNA.

DOWN TRAINS.	H M	H M	UP TRAINS.	H M	H M
Bombay .....Dep.	8 45	19 20	Thanna .....Dep.	10 38	20 45
Thanna.....Arr.	9 50	20 25	Bombay .....Arr.	11 45	21 52

The Notices dated the twenty-fourth of February and the fifth of April, 1898, are cancelled.

J. D. FORBES,
For General Traffic Manager.

Bombay, the Sixteenth of May, 1898.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

SAVINGS BANK.

THE BANK receives DEPOSITS on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31st December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons, and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors.

Interest is allowed at the rate of two per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Bombay, 25th February, 1897.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT FORT WILLIAM IN BENGAL.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

In the Matter of the Indian Companies Acts 1882 and 1895,

AND

In the Matter of the BENGAL SPINNING and WEAVING COMPANY, LIMITED.

TO BE SOLD free from encumbrances by PUBLIC AUCTION, on MONDAY, the 27th day of June, 1898, at No. 1, Clive Row, in Calcutta, at 12 o'clock noon, by Messrs. Sinclair Murray and Co., provided a sufficient sum is offered pursuant to an order of the said Court in the above matters, dated the 8th day of January, 1898.

As a first class going concern, all those Mill Premises situate at Mohesh Beerampore, together with the Buildings, Plant, Machinery, consisting of 18,392 Spindles and 200 Looms with ample preparing Machinery, Implements and Tools, Offices and Outhouses erected thereon, the property of the above Company. The purchaser of same to take over at a valuation to be made by an expert all the Loose Cotton, Cotton and Yarn on process of manufacturing and all the Baled Cotton, Cotton Waste Yarn Cloth and Stores lying in and upon the said Mill Premises and in the said Company's Calcutta Godowns and also all the furniture at present lying upon the Mill Premises. Full particulars of which will be given at the date of Auction.

The property will be sold subject to the conditions of sale which with the description and particulars of the property can be obtained from Reginald Murray, Esq., of No. 11, Hare Street, Calcutta, the Official Liquidator, or from Messrs. Orr Robertson and Burton, Solicitors, and Messrs. S. J. Leslie and Sons, Solicitors, of Old Post Office Street, Calcutta.

Dated 22nd March, 1898.

REG. MURRAY,
Official Liquidator.

WM. HAROLD EDWARDS,
Attorney for The Official Liquidator,
6, Old Post Office Street, Calcutta.

N.B.—By an order of the Court the date fixed for the above Sale has been POSTPONED from the 23rd May, 1898, to 27th JUNE, PROXIMO.

WANTED.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

DRIVERS AND FIREMEN REQUIRED.

QUALIFIED European or East Indian Goods ENGINE DRIVERS of not less than four years' standing as passed Main Line Drivers. Terms according to qualifications.

Also European or East Indian FIREMEN of not less than three years' service. Terms Rs. 50 or 60 per month according to qualifications.

Apply by letter only to Locomotive Superintendent, East Indian Railway, Jamalpur, giving full personal particulars and copies of service certificates.

R. GARDINER,
Agents.

29th April, 1898.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE AT SHIKARPUR.

A LARGE SINGLE POLE Cawnpore Elgin Mill's Tent bought four years ago but very little used, and is as good as new although it looks a little dirty.

It has two rooms with a door between them, each measuring 11 1-2 by 15 feet.

2 Verandahs 4 feet 6 inch each.
2 do 2 do 6 do do

Carpets, Ropes, Clucks and Curtains with Gunny bags, complete, bath room attached.

Price Moderate. For further particulars Apply to TYABJEE and Co. Karachi or Bombay, or Mr. Sawmulsing, Nazir, District Court, Shikarpur, (Sind).

CUMMOO JAFFER SULLEMAN'S BAZAAR.

FOR SALE.

One new English built C under-spring CANE LANDAU, with patent self-acting hood, by Lucas, of London.

One set of best English silver-mounted four-in-hand HARNESS, suitable for Arab and Waler horses.

One set of best English silver-mounted pair-horse-harness, suitable for Arab and Waler horses.

Second-hand LANDAUS, VICTORIAS and BROUGHAMS, by other well-known makers.

HOUSES furnished with latest style neat furniture. FURNITURE of the latest designs FOR SALE or HIRE, and also made to order.

Apply to

CUMMOO JAFFER SULLEMAN & Co.

MENIST'S SPECTACLES.

MARCKS & CO.'S SPECTACLES.

WE beg to bring to the notice of the SPECTACLE wearing community, our following revised PRICE LIST:—

Menist's Spectacles.	Gold. Rs.	Silver. Rs.	Steel. Rs.
With Turnpin Sides	60	28	16
With Single temple Sides	50	24	16
Solders	50	28	16

Spectacles and Folders as above but fitted with Marcks and Co.'s Pebbles, Rs.5 reduction on Gold and Silver, and Rs. 4 reduction on Steel. The new Gold and Steel "Movillette" Frames, fitted with Menist's or Marcks' Pebbles, prices as above.

All the newest patterns in Frames always in Stock. REPAIRS EXECUTED by the most EXPERIENCED WORKMEN at reasonable rates. OCULISTS PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY PREPARED.

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Our celebrated, VIOLET TINTED, SUN, GLARE and DUST GLASSES, are invaluable to people who suffer from the extreme glare of a tropical climate. May be purchased in either Steel, Nickel, Silver or Gold Frames, Japanese cups, nickel gauze cups, Stirrups with folding sides, folders and Globuler Spectacles, from Rs. 5 per pair.

MARCKS & CO., LD.,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

R. SCOTT & CO., M. R. C. V. S.,

GIRGAUM VETERINARY AND COMMISSION STABLES.

OLDEST ESTABLISHED FIRM IN BOMBAY.

CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses Selected for Local and Up-country constituents. Horses Shod on the most approved principles under Personal supervision.

Horses broken to single (Rs. 15), and double Harness (Rs. 30), and Saddle (Rs. 15), Raw Walers Charged extra.

	Rs.
Horses standing at Livery, on Commission Sale, or for treatment including Syce per mensem	35
Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	17
Examination and Certificate	10
Verbal opinion as to Soundness.....	5

CRUSHED FOOD, OATS, BRAN, &c., Supplied.

EDUCATION IN GERMANY

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Pupils in the family of Dr. Glogel for one or more boys, attending the Royal College (Gymnasium) in [illegible]. Residence in healthy situation surrounded by pine woods. Terms at 75 per year.

Application to

Dr. GLOEL
Landhaus Birkenfeld,
Wesel-am-Rhein,
Germany.

WINES, SPIRITS, BEERS, &c.

CLUB WINES.

PHIPSON & Co., Bombay, are now supplying 230 Military Messes and 69 Clubs with the finest VINTAGE WINES, Spirits, or Liqueurs from the following well-known Houses:—

POMMERY AND GRENO	Rheims.
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CARSTAIRS & ROBERTSON	Leith.
PERRIER JOUET & Co.	Epernay.
PAGE AND SANDEMAN	London.
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BOLLINGER & Co.	Ay.
JAMES HAWKER & Co.	Plymouth.
JUSTERINI & BROOKS	London.
COCKBURN & CAMPBELL	Leith.
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LEACOCK & Co.	Madeira.
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RUINART PERE ET FILS	Rheims.
KIDD AND SHADBOLT	London.
P. J. VALCKENBERG	Worms.
C. MAREY & LIGER-BELAIR	Cotes d'Or.
J. & J. GRANT	Rothes.
ACKERMANN LAURANCE	Saumur
ANDREW ROWAN	Melbourne.
AUSTRALIAN WINE Co.	Melbourne.
JOS. DIETZL	Budapest.
R. SCHLUMBERGER	Voslau.
JAMES CATHCART & Co.	Leith.
CHAS. MACKINLAY & Co.	Leith.
JOHN CRABBIE & Co.	Leith.
SIR ROBERT BURNETT & Co.	London.
J. & W. NICHOLSON & Co.	London.
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Secretaries and Presidents of Clubs and Military Messes can now obtain Wines, Spirits, or Liqueurs, &c., from the above well-known Firms, without the inconvenience and expense of importing direct.

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BOMBAY.

FRED. GIESLER & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE.

Extra Superior Dry, Quarts Rs. 76 and Pints Rs. 40 per doz for India
" Rs. 76 " Rs. 40 "

For these Cream of Champagnes

Apply to

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BEEHIVE BRANDY.

THIS BRANDY which is much approved in Great Britian, America, and Australia, has scored further SUCCESS by being just Awarded

SPECIAL FIRST PRIZE & GOLD MEDAL,

AT THE

BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

Rs. 2-4 per Bottle.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."

CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE

THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER & RESTORER

FOR CLEANSING and CLEARING the BLOOD from ALL IMPURITIES it cannot be too highly recommended.

For Scrofula, Scurvy Eczema, Skin and Blood Diseases, and Sores of all kinds, it is a never-failing and permanent Cure. It

Cures Old Sores.
Cures Sores on the Neck.
Cures Sore Legs.
Cures Blackhead or Pimples on the Face.
Cures Scurvy.
Cures Ulcers.
Cures Blood and Skin Diseases.
Cures Glandular Swellings.
Clears the Blood from all Impure Matter, From whatever cause arising.

It is a real Specific for Gout and Rheumatic pains. It removes the cause from the Blood and Bones.

As this Mixture is pleasant to the taste and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietor solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

Translation of letter from Fiji.

The Letter of Jonathan to Mr. Dunsford.

"My Friend,—I write to you to-day to tell you about my illness. I love you very much to-day because of the medicine you gave to me. Three months I was very ill, truly, because of my leg I could not plant yams, I could not go fishing, I could not eat or sleep; but now I am quite well again. It is truly a wonderful medicine. I beg you, Mr. Dunsford, give me one more bottle, as the month of boils is near.

"Preparation Day (Saturday), Bua, Vanual Levu."

Explanation of above Letter.

"In Fiji, at certain times of the year, both the European residents and the natives themselves break out in boils, which, if not immediately seen to, not infrequently develop into terrible running sores. At these times I can conscientiously assert that I know of no better medicines than 'Clarke's Blood Mixture,' which I have used with unfailing success both among my white and black neighbours. The enclosed letter from 'Jonathan,' a Christianised Fijian, speaks for itself. For three months he had been almost a cripple, and yet one of your large bottles quickly set him up. In ordinary cases even a lesser quantity will effect a cure.—I am dear Sir, yours faithfully,

" . EDGCUMBE DUNSFORD,
46 Leicester-square, London, W.C.,
" 21 June, 1892.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold in Bottle at 9d. each, and in cases containing six times the quantity, 11s.—sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the great majority of long-standing cases. BY ALL CHEMISTS and PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the world Proprietors: THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln, England Trade Mark—"BLOOD MIXTURE."

CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE.

CAUTION.—Purchasers of Clarke's Blood Mixture should see that they get the genuine article. Worthless imitations and substitutes are sometimes palmed off by unprincipled vendors. The words "Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England," are engraved on the Government stamp, and "Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture," blown in the bottle WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE.

HAVE you seen the latest SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES? If not call at 5, Church Gate Street, where on looking at it you will find that it is a Machine that surprises any other Sewing Machine in Simplicity, Durability Silence and Speed. SINGER Co., Bombay.

BANKS.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

CAPITAL £800,000
RESERVE FUND..... £450,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000

HEAD OFFICE.

HATTON COURT, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON

AGENCIES AND BRANCHES:

Bombay.	Singapore.	Hankow.
Calcutta.	Penang.	Foochow.
Rangoon.	Kwala Lumpor.	Manila.
Colombo.	Batavia.	Yokohama.
Penang.	Sourabaya.	Kobe.
Thaiping.	Hongkong.	Tientsin.
Deli (Sumatra).	Shanghai.	

The Corporation GRANT DRAFTS on the above Agencies and Branches; buy and receive for collection Bills of Exchange; issue Letters of Credit; and undertake general banking business.

FIXED DEPOSITS

are received for TWELVE MONTHS at FOUR AND A HALF PER CENT per annum and for SIX MONTHS at FOUR PER CENT per annum. Rates for shorter periods may be ascertained on application

T. FRASER,
Acting Agent.

Bombay Agency, Elphinstone Circle.

COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

HEAD OFFICE:—14, Rue Bergere.

LONDON 53:—Threadneedle Street, E.C.

LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER.

CAPITAL ...Fcs. 100,000,000 (£4,000,000).

LONDON BANKERS:—

BANK OF ENGLAND.

UNION BANK OF LONDON.

BRANCHES in all Principal Towns of France, Calcutta, Bombay, Tunis, San Francisco, Chicago, New Orleans, Melbourne, Sydney, Tamatave and Tananarivo.

Current Deposit Accounts are opened, and Interest is allowed on Daily Balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000. Rates to be learnt on application.

Special arrangements may be obtained on application.

Deposit Accounts are opened for Fixed Periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

Drafts and Letters of Credit issued payable at any of the chief Commercial Towns of the World.

The Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris beg to draw the attention of Travellers to its Letter of Credit Department in Paris at the Branch Office, 19, Place de l'Opera, the very centre of the fashionable quarter of Paris, on the Boulevards facing the Grand Opera, and within easy reach of the principal Hotels, Theatres, and Shops.

Writing and Reading Rooms, Telephone, all necessary arrangements for receiving and despatching Correspondence, exchanging Money, letting Safes or parts thereof wherein travellers can deposit valuables which they do not wish to keep in the Hotels, further Strong Rooms for the storage of heavy luggage, etc.

Dividends, Coupons, etc., on Government Paper, and other Stocks cashed for Customers without charge if remitted Home through the Bank.

Loans and Cash Credits granted on Government Paper, Gold, Silver, and Produce.

W. LLEWELLYN,
Manager.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid up Capital.....$	100,00,000
Reserve Fund.....$	80,00,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors.....$	100,00,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONGKONG:

T. JACKSON, *Chief Manager.*

London Bankers.—LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LD.

LONDON COMMITTEE:

E. F. DUNCANSON, Esq. (of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co).
Wm. ANASTASIUS JONES, Esq., (Director of the London and County Banking Co., Limited).
F. D. BARNES, Esq. (Managing Director. P. & O. S. N. Co
G. E. NOBLE, Esq., 37 Inverness Terrace, Bayswater, W.)

EWEN CAMERON, JOHN WALTER. } Managers.

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AMOY.	HANKOW.	PENANG.
BANGKOK.	HIOGO.	RANGOON.
BATAVIA.	ILOILO.	SAIGON.
BOMBAY.	LYONS.	SANFRANCISCO
CALCUTTA.	MANILA.	SINGAPORE.
COLOMBO.	NAGASAKI.	SOURABAYA.
FOOCHOW.	NEW YORK.	TIENTSIN.
HAMBURG.	PEKING.	YOKOHAMA

BOMBAY AGENCY.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 1 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances if not under Rs. 1,000, and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000; but no interest is allowed when the sum secured does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Are received at 4½ per cent. for 12 months, and for shorter periods, on terms which may be learnt on application.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every Description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted

Drafts granted on London and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China, and Japan.

G. H. TOWNSEND,
Agent.

47, Church Gate Street, Bombay, and at 51, Dalhousie Square, South Calcutta.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, (LIMITED.)

HEAD OFFICE:—MADRAS.

BRANCHES:—

London—12, King William Street, E.C.
H. A. HERBERT, Manager.
Bombay—C. E. BERESFORD, Manager.
Calcutta—REGD. MURRAY, Manager.
Rangoon—P. A. CHURCHWARD, Manager.
Kurrachee—O. M. BARNES, Ag. Manager.
Rawulpindi—Murree—W. MOIR, Manager.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL.....Rs. 40,00,000
RESERVES AND REST ..... " 15,35,485

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED AS UNDER:

STERLING DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.—For Home Remittances 4 per cent. per annum.

FIXED DEPOSITS.—Received at 5 per cent. per annum for 9 and 12 months.

SPECIAL RATES are given for short periods during the busy season.

Monies are received into the BANK'S PRUDENTIAL OR PROVIDENT FUND, bearing half-yearly compound interest at 5 per cent. per annum.

CHEQUES, BILLS, HUNDIES, AND CURRENCY NOTES of any Circle are collected and credited free of charge in the above Interest Deposit Accounts.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS receive 2 per cent. per annum up to Rs. 10,000 in the event of the balance not falling below Rs. 500.

OPEN CREDITS AND LOANS are granted upon all marketable Securities, BILLS, PROMISSORY NOTES are discounted.

Investment Orders executed on the London Stock Exchange under Code with London Bankers.

Apply for Rules to Head Office or Branches.

By Order of the Board,

C. E. BERESFORD,
Manager Bombay Branch.

CREDIT LYONNAIS.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

CAPITAL (fully paid) Fcs. 200,000,000 = £8,000,000
RESERVE FUND.....Fcs. 50,000,000 = £2,000,000

BOMBAY BRANCH: ESPLANADE ROAD.

CENTRAL OFFICE: PARIS.

HEAD OFFICE: LYONS.

BRANCHES in all the principal Towns of France and Algiers.

LONDON OFFICE: 40, Lombard Street, E. C.
WEST END BRANCH: 4, Cockspur Street, S. W.
BRANCH IN CALCUTTA.

FOREIGN BRANCHES.

Alexandria, St. Petersburg, Madrid, Brussels, Constantinople, Cairo, Moscow, Barcelona, Geneva, Smyrna, Port Said, Odessa, Jerusalem.

THE CREDIT LYONNAIS, BOMBAY BRANCH sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers on all parts of the world, negotiates and collects Bills and Coupons on the English and Foreign Towns.

Issues Letters of Credit.

Exchanges Foreign money, executes investment orders in Securities on all Indian, English, or Foreign Stock Exchanges, and gives information when required on Securities dealt in on the London Stock Exchange.

Receives Securities for safe custody and collects interests or dividends on same on conditions to be arranged.

Grants advances in current account, or for fixed periods on Rupee paper, approved stock, shares, bullion, and produce.

Opens deposit accounts, allowing interest on the daily balances.

Receives fixed deposits on terms to be ascertained on application.

C. BLUM,
Acting Manager.

BANKS.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....Yens	12,000,000
PAID UP CAPIAL ..... "	9,000,000
RESERVE FUND ..... "	6,660,000

HEAD OFFICE:—YOKOHAMA.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:

Kobe, London, Lyons, New York, San Francisco, Hawaii Shanghai, and Hongkong.

BANKERS.—The LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK. The UNION BANK of LONDON. THE PARR'S BANK LIMITED.

BOMBAY AGENCY:

LIBERAL INTEREST allowed on CURRENT ACCOUNT, and FIXED DEPOSITS, on Terms to be learnt on application.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on JAPAN, and the Chief Commercial places in the World.

T. KAWASHIMA,
Agent.

Hornby Road.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...£	1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL ..... £	500,000
RESERVE FUND ..... £	230,000

HEAD OFFICE:

37, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C

BRANCHES:

Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Kandy, Newera Elya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawnpore and Mombassa.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

The Bank receives Deposits fixed for 1 year at 4½ per cent interest, and for shorter periods, at rates to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000, but no Interest is allowed when the sum secured does not amount to Rs. 10 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE payable in the principal Cities of Europe, India, China, and Australia purchased or collected.

DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities

H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

THE NIGHT OF THE GODS.

BY JOHN O'NEILL.

NOW PUBLISHED.

IN TWO VOLUMES, WITH INDEX.

THIS work, embodying a vast amount of accurately recorded Folk Lore, Myths and Symbols, and giving especial prominence to the Mythology of India and the Further East is now complete in Two Volumes.

The NIGHT of the GODS forms an unrivalled collection of the Primitive Beliefs of the Aryan, the Yellow, the Red and the Black Races and the Origins of World Myths, collated and focussed by an accomplished scholar and man of letters.

The price of the complete work is £2-12-6.

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2. The Seven of Ursa Major
3. Thebes.
4. The Number Seven.
5. The Seven Steppes.
6. The Seven Churches.
7. The Week.
8. The Maini, Marutæ, and Rishis.
9. The Week (Resumed).

THE SOUTH.
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2. Sisyphus and Tantalus.
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4. The Tomoye.

UNIVERSE-AXIS MYTHS.
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NOTICES.

"Your publisher sent me your book (beautifully printed and I have been reading it in wonder at the immensity of reading which must have gone to it, and the labour of arrangement and the whole body of thought and industry in its composition."

F. GREENWOOD.

"The Chinese side of your researches displays an unusual amount of care and accuracy."

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WM. F. WARREN President Boston University.

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INSURANCES.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

TOTAL INVESTED

BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half Yearly Divid.	Cash Rate.
INDIAN BANKS.		Rs.	Rs.		
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	10 p. c. } 1 bon. }	1,240
Bank of Bengal	40,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,130
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,100
Commercial & Ld. Mge.	10,000 } 15,000 }	100	100 } 75 }	10 p.c.	120
EXCHANGE BANKS.					
Agra	1,00,000	£6	all	3 pr. ct.	80
Chartered Bank of Mesopotamia and China	40,000	£20	£20	9 pr. ct.	£23½
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	£125	all	£1-5s.	
National Bank of India	68,000	£25	£12½	7 pr. ct.	30

PRESS COMPANIES.

Allot	200	1,250	1,250	Yearly 75	11·50
Albert Ginning Co.	100	500	all	18 pr. ct.	45
Albert (Kurrachee)	200	1,100	1,100	Rs 80	1,925
Bellary	167	1,000	1,000	dvd 14 x	30x
Bhawnagger City Press & Manfg. Co. Ld	550	250	250	25	275
Bombay Cotton Steam Cawnpore Press Co., Lt.	1,000	125	125	dv Rs12½	135
rosch City Press Co., Ld	500	200	200	14	15
Colaba	600	200	200	dvd Rs25	210
East India	500	1,880	1,880	dvd Rs15	315
English Press and Manfg.	350	1,000	1,000	100	1,150
Hemant Manfg.	400	200	...	dvd Rs 8	85
ort	150	8,500	500	25+80	1,100
French	500	500	500	dvd Rs30	500
Harvey and Sabapathy	450	450	500	dvd Rs40	355xd
Kingoll Press Co., Ld.	700	100	100	dvd Rs10	145
Khasgaum	940	450	450	Rs 40	455
Mahwa Press Co., Ld	300	200	all	15 pr. ct.	210
Mahimapura Cotton G. and P. Co., Ld.	800	800	800	53	70
Mercantile	800	125	125	dvd Rs 4	80
Mofussil Co	425	400	400	dvd Rs25	357½
Munmar M	300	250	...	15	255
New Berar	1,00	500	,00	dvd Rs45	670
New Indian	4,00	125	125	dvd 10½	167½
Prince of Wales. abapathy (Bellary)	130	500	00	20	450xn
Sassoon	800	500	500	20	685
Sind and Punjab Co.	100	1,000	1,000	200	2,000
Sind	400	2,000	750	50	490
Sorab Woollen Mills	300	250	250	Nil.	75
Surat City Press Co., Ld.	37	800	all	12	200xd
Aolkar	—	800	10	dvd Rs6	1,090

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

				Half yearly	
Ahmedabad adv.	700	1,000	000	Nil	780
Alliance	1,500	1,100	all	...	490
Anglo-Indian Aurangabad S. & M. Co., Ld.	1,345	...	00	Nil	45
Bellary S. & W. Co., Ld. (Bellary)	618	1,000	1,000	80	1,000
Bombay Unid	871	80	all	9 per ct.	
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co.	900	500	500	dvd Rs.40	700
Bombay National Manfg. Co., Ld.	900	500	500	dvd Rs.30	600xd
Britannia Mills	500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.5	675
Central India	1,000	500	500	dvd Rs.45	1,615
China Mills Co. Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.30	770
City of Bombay Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50	950
Coimbatore S. and W	800	100	100	9 pr ct.	125
Connaught Mills	600	500	500	25	70
Colaba Land & Mills	4,000	700	...	dvd Rs.12	550
Coorla Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.25	675
Currimbhoy Mill	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50	1,000
David Mill	1,400	500	500	dvd Rs.25	500xd
Dhulia Ginning and Pressing Co., Ld.	400	250	all	dvd Rs.20	250
Dhun Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	50	4,0
Empress	2,100	500	500	dvd 50	650
Framjee Petit	1,250	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.30	580
Hindustan	875	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.35	665
Hingangha Mills	700	500	500	40	670
Howard and Bullough	1,500	500	500	25	700
Hope Mills	500	1,000	500	50	900
Hyderabad	700	1,000	1,000	100	990
Imperial Cotton	900	500	500	dvd Rs.15	475xd
Indian Manfg.	00	1,000	1,000	no dvd	1,030
Indo-China Manufacturing Co., Ld.	700	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50	775
James Greaves	1,100	500	500	20	635
Jaffer Alli	600	500	500	dvd Rs.20	220
Jamshedjee Manufacturing Co.	1,800	250	250	dvd Rs.74	207 1-2
Jowraj Bailoo	1,000	1,000	1,000	no dvd	760
Jubilee Mills Co., Ld.	843	1,000	1,000	20	450
Khandelsh	750	1,500	1,000	dvd Rs.30	800
Khasgaum Manfg. Co.	400	250	250	Nil	95
Khatau Makanjee	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.25	675
Leopold	3,500	100	100	dvd Rs.10	222
Lord Reay Mfg.	445	1,000	1,000	30	670
Lukmidas Spinning & Weaving Co.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50	1,002 1-2
Madras United	350	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.100	3,450
Mahalaxmi	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	400
Mahboob Shah Mills (Gurburga)	8,400	500	500	15 pr ct.	...
Manockjee Petit	4,00	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 70	2,410
Mazagon	5,000	250	250	dvd Rs. 5	140
Morarji Goculdas	1,050	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.55	2070
Mysore S. & M. Co., Ld	4,000	250	250	dv Rs.15	250
Madura Mills	7,779	100	100	Nil	par
National	500	1,000	1,000	Nil	52½
New Great Eastern	1,400	1,000	1,000	's, 20	400
Oriental	5,72	625	625	dvd Rs20	325
Presidency Mills, Co. (Ld.)	743	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs10	1,270
Queen Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs35	850
Ripon Mills	600	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs5	1120
Sassoon	1,500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs40	840
Shalapore Mills	2,000	1,000	1,00	dvd Rs80	2040
Soonderdas	750	1,000	1,000	yrly Rs50	770
Southern India	1,000	500	500	15	265
Southern Mahratta	1,212	250	250	dv Rs.12½	350
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,300	250	250	Rs.50	270
Standard Mills Co.	1,600	500	500	15	295xd
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	90
Swadeshi Mills	3,000	500	500	dvd Rs.20	610
Swan Mills, Ld.	1,212	250	250	dv Rs.12½	350
Standard Mills Co.	1,600	500	500	15	295xd
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	90
Swadeshi Mills	3,000	500	500	dvd Rs.20	610
Swan Mills	3,000	500	5 0	dvd Rs.15	580
Union Spinning and Manufacturing Co.	500	1,000	1,000	50	515
Union Mills Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.30	500
Venishunker Lukhmidas Spinning Co.	900	500	900	dvd Rs40	410xd
Victoria Mills	550	1,000	1,000	Nil	500nom.
Western India	1,200	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs.50	675
Wadhwan City Ginning Pressing & Manufacturing Co., Ld.	400	250	all	dvd Rs15	256
Wadia Mills	1,500	1,000	1,000	..	—

MISCELLANEOUS

				Half yearly	
Alcock Ashdown	1,750	100	100	dvd Rs 5	205
Back Bay Baths	800	50	50	12	35
Badham Pile	5,000	100	100	dvd 25	145
Bombay & Persia Trading Corporation	1,000	2,500	1,500	300	6,000
Do. New Issue.	600	375	625	75	1,035
Bombay Ice Mfg. Co., Ld.	1,250	100	100	dvd 8	58
Bombay Land and Building Co., Ld.	400	500	500	5-pr. ct	50
Bombay Flour Mill	4,000	500	500	50	1,225
Deccan Paper Mills	1,000	500	500	5-pr ct.	205
Delhi and Northern India Flour Mills	1,500	200	200	dvd Rs10	240
Delhi Cloth & General Mills Co., Ld.	2,800	250	250	9 pr. ct.	300
Empire of India Life A. Co., Ld.	2,000	500	50	...	52
Indian Guarantee & Surety Ship Assn	5,000	100	10	10 pr. ct.	18
John Roberts & Co.	1,500	100	100	10 pr. ct.	175
Kemp & Co.	4,000	200	175	21	365
Kurrachee Landing	500	500	300	30	18
Marcks & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	dvd Rs15	152
Napier Hotel Co	2,000	100	100	9 pr. ct.	30
Napier Foundry	1,000	100	200	...	60
Oriental Govt. Security Life Insurance	5,000	200	50	12 pr. ct.	130xd
Phillips & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	dvd Rs 6	76
Port Canning Co.	6,000	,000	1,000	dvd Rs20	477 1-2
Soundy & Co.	1,000	100	100	5	494
Treacher & Co.	2,000	500	500	60	1,100
Thacker & Co.	1,800	100	100	..	158
Telephone Co.	2,200	261	100	dvd Rs11	261-2

PRICES OF BULLION, &c.

English Gold	Rs.	24-6
China Loaf	,,	24-3
Paskin, bar Gold, old	,,	24-4
Do. new	,,	24-2
Australian, bar Gold 100	,,	24-5
Bombay bar Gold	,,	24-3
Sovereigns	,,	15-2
Do. Dragons	,,	15-1
Bar silver 17	,,	76-6
Do. 17½	,,	76-3

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 5h. 25m. Sun sets, 6h. 28m. High water, 11-0m., 10-40s. Low water, 4-3m., 4-42s.

Address to Mr. Mahomedbhoy Ibrahim Hassumbhoy Bhalloo, founder, Khoja Plague Hospital, H. H. the Aga Khan's bungalow, Nesbit Lane, 10 a.m.

Akbar Manufacturing Company, Carnac Bridge, 3 p. m.

Celebration of 4th Centenary of the Discovery of the Sea Route to India by Vasco da Gama, National Portuguese Church, Dabul, 6-30 p.m.

PRINCE'S DOCK.—The steamer Clan Forbes left the dock on Tuesday.

VICTORIA DOCK.—The steamers Golden Cross and Azamar entered, and the steamers Maroa, Simla, and Courtfield left the dock yesterday.

POLO.—There will be a game at 4-45 p.m., to-day.

POSTAL NOTICES.—Mails for Port Blair, per extra s. s. Dalhousi, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 3 p.m., to-day.—Mails for Mauritius and Reunion, via Tuticorin and Colombo, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 5 p.m., on Sunday.

THEFT OF GOLD BUTTONS.—Mahomed Meoljee, a merchant, residing on the third floor of a house at Tindal Street, has reported to the police that some time between 5 and 7 a.m., on Tuesday, a bundee containing nine gold buttons, valued at Rs. 140-12, was stolen from his room.

THE FORTHCOMING MOHURRUM FESTIVAL.—The men of the Colaba garrison (those on duty excepted) are prohibited from going beyond the Esplanade Bandstand or Young Men's Christian Association from the 24th instant to 2nd proximo, inclusive, on account of the Mohurrum Festival, which commences with the appearance of the next new moon.

SERIOUSLY INJURED BY A FALL.—Suckoo, a Hindu girl, aged seven years, residing with her parents on the first floor of a ho se at Picket Road, accidentally fell over a balustrade into a sweepers' gully, on Tuesday last, fracturing her skull. She was removed to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where she has been detained under treatment, but there is very little hope of her recovery.

BANDORA HOSPITAL.—The nucleus of a fund created some years ago towards building a hospital in Bandora has received an addition in the shape of a gift of Rs. 500 from Mr. F. A. Little, late President of the local Municipality. With the municipal annual contributions and the donation of Rs. 2,000 from his Highness the Gaekwad of Baroda, the hospital fund now amounts to Rs. 5,400.

INJURY TO A WOMAN.—Vazeerbee, a Mahomedan woman, aged 80 years, residing at Gondhrin Street, was, on Tuesday afternoon, admitted into the J. J. Hospital, suffering from a dislocation of the right shoulder, caused by a fall while carrying a chatty full of water from a standpipe on the previous day. No report was made to the police until the woman was removed by her husband to the police.

A PANTHER AT MAHIM.—Mr. Hussambhai Rahimtoola states that every night since the 14th instant a panther has made its appearance in the compound of his house on Lady Jamsetjee Road, Mahim. It has killed and eaten one of the dogs kept on the premises, and goes there nightly in search for another one. Mr. Rahimtoola believes that the animal has its lair in Gopitalao. If his opinion is correct, there is a fine chance for local sportsmen.

MR. N. R. MISTRI, PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT.—We hear that Mr. Nusserwanji Mistri, of the Accountancy Institution, Bombay, has successfully passed the examination of the American Association of Public Accountants, and has been elected by that body a honorary member by examination. Besides, Mr. Mistri, it is said, there are only five citizens of America who enjoy this honour. Mr. Mistri has also become associated with the Society of Incorporated Accountants of London, having been elected a Fellow. Mr. Mistri is considered to be the first of the Natives of India and of the Parsis to hold either of these distinctions.

OBITUARY.—The death is announced of Mr. Vadilal Veerchund at Sholapur, at midnight, on the 17th instant. The deceased was the eldest son of Mr. Veerchund Deepchund, C.I.E. This loss is a great blow to him in his old age, and all his friends will greatly sympathise with our citizen in his sad bereavement. Mr. Vadilal was connected with the firm of Messrs. Morarjee Goculdas & Co., and was one of the managing agents of the Sholapur Mills at Sholapur. He was a quiet, unassuming man, and popular. His death was sudden, being the result of heart-disease. His age was about 55. As a mark of respect to the deceased the Morarjee Goculdas, the Sholapur, and the Mahalakshmi Mills together with their offices were closed yesterday.

ALLEGED ASSAULT ON A TRAM CONDUCTOR.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. J. Standers-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. A. Caron, proprietor of Messrs. Caron and Co., was charged with assaulting tramway conductor No. 79, on the 22nd ultimo. Mr. E. T. Bursell, Traffic Superintendent of the Tramway Company, conducted the prosecution, while Mr. Quadros pleader, defended the accused. The complainant stated that the defendant had jumped on his car at Colaba and had asked him why he had not stopped the car. On complainant saying that he had done so Mr. Caron kicked him. In cross-examination, witness stated that Mr. Caron struck the complainant's heel with the toe of his boot. The defence of the accused was that he had merely threatened to report the conductor because he had not stopped his car. The magistrate, in disposing of the case, considered the statement of the accused the most reliable, and discharged him.

THE MURDER BY A STEP-MOTHER.—Mr. Turner, the coroner, concluded the adjourned inquiry, yesterday afternoon, at the Esplanade Police Court, regarding the circumstances touching the death of Gul, a Hindu girl, aged three years and a-half, residing with her parents at Nowroji Hill, who was alleged to have been drowned by her step mother, Bhagee, on the evening of the 10th instant, in the Babulla Tank. Inspector Mynn was present at the inquiry. The murderer was also brought before the court. The deceased's mother, Bhagee, was recalled and further examined by the coroner. She identified from silver neck ornament which the deceased had on her person. After the evidence of the man who found the girl's body and of Inspector Roshanali was recorded, the coroner briefly summed-up the whole case. The jury without retiring brought in an unanimous verdict of wilful murder against the accused Bhagee, who was then committed by the coroner, to take her trial at the next Criminal Sessions of the Bombay High Court.

HOUSE BREAKING AND THEFT.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. W. Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, Abdool Hoosein Ismail and two other Mahomedans were charged by Inspector Power with house-breaking and theft of embroidered goods and other property, of the value of Rs. 3,000. It appeared from evidence that the stolen property, which was originally enclosed in a large box, was, two months since, left in charge of the complainant, Abdool Hoosein Mahomedali, a commission agent, by two friends, who had left Bombay for their native country. The box was placed in the complainant's warehouse, whence its contents were removed by the accused on Sunday last. On the matter being reported to the police, two of the accused were arrested in Bombay and the other in Poona. Some of the missing property was recovered from the accused and the rest from a tailor, to whom the accused had given it for safe custody. The magistrate sentenced the first accused to two years, the second to one year, and the third to two months' rigorous imprisonment.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY A CONVICT.—Before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Mahomed Essau Mirza Sulleman, a convict undergoing a term of two years' rigorous imprisonment in the Byculla prison, was charged by the jailor, Mr. Butler, with attempting to commit suicide by strangling himself with a piece of rope. At 3-30 p.m., on Wednesday, the 11th instant, the accused while working in the carpenters' shop picked up a piece of rope, made a noose of it and having tied both his hands and feet with a slip knot of the same rope, laid himself down on the ground and then stretched his body to strangle himself to death. However, before he could complete the deed, the warder appeared and informed the jailor. The latter promptly repaired to the scene and removed the string from the neck. The jailor in his cross-examination stated that accused had complained of bajri bread, but his diet could not be changed owing to no such order having been given by the medical officer in charge of the prison. The accused in his defence said that he was averse to bajri bread, and being tired of prison life attempted to commit suicide. His Worship sentenced him to one month's simple imprisonment, the sentence to take effect after the expiry of the term he is now undergoing.

THANA NEWS.—Our local correspondent, writing on Tuesday, says:—Khan Saheb Hormusji Jamsetji Antia, Mamlatdar and Second-Class Magistrate of Mahim, has been appointed Vice-President of the Taluka Local Board, Mahim, in the Thana District.—It is stated that a Press Committee has been established here by order of Government, under the Presidentship of Mr. Anna Gopal Kotwal, Huzur Deputy Collector and First-Class Magistrate of Thana.—The President of the Thana Relief Committee has received additional subscriptions from the following gentlemen during the last week:—Rao Bahadur Daji Govind Gupte, Rs. 105, Rao Bahadur Anna Gopal Kotwal, Rs. 10, Mr. Rustomji Dadabhai, Rs. 10, Rao Saheb Baji Narayan Nabar, B.A., Rs. 10, and Mr. Balwant Chimaji Kohojkar, Rs. 3.—Two pick-pockets, named Naria and Pilaji, were arrested by the police for stealing Rs. 4 from the pocket of Ahmed Mia, a timber merchant in the Municipal Market, last week. They were tried by the Huzur Deputy Collector and First-Class Magistrate of Thana, and on conviction sentenced to one month's rigorous imprisonment each, on Thursday last.—No case of bubonic plague have occurred in Thana during the last week. There was no one under observation in the Segregation Camp near the Railway Station to-day. The quarantine at Kalyan station has been abolished from the 15th instant.—A slight shower of rain fell at Kapoor Bow on the Bhiwndi Road on Wednesday night.—The camp of Mr. Barrow, Collector and District Magistrate of Thana, is here at present. The thermometer readings ranged from 88 to 93 degrees in the shade yesterday, and 82 to 94 degrees to-day.

PRESENTATION TO MR. G. D. MARSTON.

ON Tuesday evening, at Igatpuri, an in eresting function took place in connection with the presentation of an address, accompanied with a souvenir, in the shape of a valuable and elegant dressing case, to Mr. G. D. Marston, Resident Engineer, G. I. P. Railway Company, and Vice-President of the Igatpuri Municipality. Mr. Marston, in his capacity of engineer of the great railway, has endeared himself so much to the staff and the operatives of the company, and as vice-president of the local municipality, to the general public, by his firmness in business and suavity of manners, that his name has become a household word in the town. In connection with the plague and the repression of the riots that took place last year at Goti, a village near Igatpuri, Mr. Marston's services were very useful and appreciated by Government and by the public. After his strenuous labour in his dual capacity, it is natural that he should seek a little rest, and with this view he has obtained eighteen months' furlough to Europe, and proceeds home by the next mail steamer on Saturday. At the place where he has rendered so much useful service it was deemed desirable to express the gratitude of the people to him in some appreciable form, however trifling it may be. A committee of the leading residents of the town was organized, with power to collect subscriptions, with two secretaries, Messrs. T. G. Nolan and Hormusjee Dhunjeebhoy Patel. Through the exertions of these gentlemen a sufficient sum for the purpose was collected, and it was resolved to hold a public meeting. Mr. Nolan, of the G. I. P. Railway, undertook to erect a manap in a prominent part of the town, and he succeed d in building up a snowy one, consisting of a substantial pole, from which iron strings were stretched in the shape of a tank, decorated with flags and banneres, and wreaths of flowers and evergreens. Below this were placed sofas, chairs, benches, etc., and a raised dais was erected for the accommodation of the guest of the evening and members of the managing committee. Long before the appointed time for the presentation, 5 p.m., the place was crowded with European and Parsi ladies and gentlemen. Outside the enclosure were to be seen hundreds of poor native men, women, and children, among whom Mr. Marston's name was very familiar. The Band of the G. I. P. Railway Volunteers, stationed in front of the building, played a selection of music before the commencement of the proceedings. A procession of some of the lower castes of workmen in the railway came last to the accompaniment of their tom-toms and long bugles, which excited some amusement. A word of praise is due to Mr. Nolan, to whom the whole business in connection with the presentation was entrusted, and who carried out the wishes of the promoters of this movement not only to their entire satisfaction, but of the public at large. This is not the first instance in which he has rendered such help to the Igatpurians, in almost all previous entertainments he has been foremost to do all in his power to ensure success; and he has frequently received the approbation of all his colleagues.

Mr. Marston arrived soon after 5 o'clock, and was received by the members of the managing committee, and conducted by Mr. Mayes and Mr. Nolan to the dais, where he took his seat. On the proposition of Mr. Mayes, seconded Mr. Nolan, Mr. H. Murray, locomotive foreman, was called to the chair.

The chairman, in addressing the meeting, said: Ladies and Gentlemen.—We have assembled here this evening as residents of Igatpuri and as railway servants to present Mr. Marston, vice-President of our Municipality and Resident Engineer of the G. I. P. Railway, on the eve of his departure to England, with an address and a souvenir in token of our regard and esteem. We all know how Mr. Marston worked as vice-president of the municipality and chief of the Plague Committee when this station was visited by that terrible epidemic, and now read, he was to assist the sick and poor not only with his valuable time, but with his purse also. I think I am correct in saying that Mr. Marston as a railway officer has the good wishes of all railway employes with whom he comes in contact, and who, I am sure, are here this evening to wish him a very pleasant passage to England, and a safe return to India, and a happy face amongst us on his return from furlough. I will now ask Mr. Little to read the address.

Mr. G. Little then read the following address:—

To Mr. G. D. Marston, Resident Engineer, G. I. P. Railway, and Vice-President, Igatpuri Municipality, &c. Dear Sir,—We, the representatives of the general public of this station, as also of the Municipal Committee, have solicited the favour of your attendance here this evening, in the hope that you, on the eve of your departure for England, may be pleased to accept as our hands as a small token of our respect and esteem for you, as the general manager, and finally to bid you God-speed. Our regret at your departure is the spontaneous outcome of the appreciation of your many valuable services rendered to the public during the trying times of last year, when you held the joint office of Vice-President of the Municipality and head of the Plague Committee. We cannot be too thankful to Government for availing themselves of your services, for in a great measure is due to your unflagging and untiring zeal that the scourge which so ravaged this Presidency, and has now spread across the Peninsula, was so rapidly put under. The members of the native community will ever remember with gratitude that you at all times respected their prejudices, and in no way allowed any friction to take place among the different sections, thus averting a collision with the authorities. For these yeoman services we one and all tender you our sincere thanks. As a civilian official you have endeared yourself to us as members of every department by your courtesy and amability. No enter ainment was ever proposed, but we were sure of your ready co-operation, notwithstanding that it was perhaps at the cost and sacrifice of your valuable time. We therefore consider it our bounden duty to express our sincere regret at your departure from among us, and to wish you a very pleasant voyage home, where we hope you may enjoy your well-earned holiday; nor need we add how pleased will we all be to welcome you back again, should the Railway Company see fit to employ you on this section of the line. In conclusion, we beg to assure you of our prayers of all sections of this community, which will attend you at all times and wherever you may be.

The chairman then called upon Mr. Hormusji Dhunjibhoy Patel to present to Mr. Marston the souvenir. Mr. Hormusji is a member of the Igatpuri Municipality and also a member of the Taluka and District Local Board of Nasik. He has had a good deal to do with Mr. Marston in stamping out the epidemic. Mr. Hormusji, before making the presentation, thanked the chairman for the honour, and said that he had not much to say, as all that was in his favour had been briefly alluded to in the address. He was glad that an opportunity was given him to make the presentation, for Mr. Marston had the position of a raja here, and the heart of a lord. He wished Mr. Marston a long life and happiness in his native land. He then requested Mr. Marston to accept the dressing-case, which had been kept open for the inspection of the visitors, who, one and all, admired its excellent appearance and its various contents.

Mr. Marston, on rising to reply, was greatly cheered. He said that he was no speaker, and felt him elf much embarrassed by the kindness of his friends. The address which had just been read was couched in kind and eloquent language, and the present which accompanied it was, he was sure, very acceptable and remarkable, as he had seldom seen such a beautiful and useful article before. It was more unexpected gathering, and still more an unexpected present. He only expected when he first heard of this movement that it would be only a "pausopari and rose water" gathering, and that he would be decorated with garlands and flowers, with the smell of which on his clothing he would go on board the mail steamer. As a railway official he had done nothing beyond his duty, and if he was fortunate to secure the good wishes of his staff and subordinates, it must be said that they had contributed not a little towards cementing the good understanding and smooth working to which allusion was made in the address. The good feeling which subsisted between the plague authorities and the townspeople was due to the spirit in which all instructions from Government regarding the plague were carried out. Such spirit ought to be fostered and encouraged, and would be left no fear of a riot or any other mischief. When he was asked to become the vice-president of the municipality, he took up the post with certain misgivings, as he did not know what to do, as he was quite new to the work. There was a great cry for local self-government, and he did not believe there was a greater force. When members of the municipal board came to vote, he did not see a greater force. For in one ward there were 192 voters, of whom only 76 came to the poll, and returned only two members. In another ward there were 308 voters, of whom 42 voted and returned the same two members as in the first ward; and so on. When they came to business they only blackguarded the Commissioner and the Health Officer, and shifted their own responsibility upon the shoulders of others. During the plague epidemic he strove his best to visit the infected localities and hospitals and houses of suspected cases. His misfortune was that he was a single man, or else his wife would not have permitted him to go far from her house. In whatever work he did he had the valuable co-operation of Mr. Hormusji Dhunjibhoy Patel, one of the Plague Committee, who had done real good work, and upon whom the whole brunt was laid. If grain, baskets, clothes, clothing or anything else were wanted, Hormusjee was the man to procure them. If, unhappily, plague revisited the town, it would be the duty of every man not to run away from it, but to make a bold front and stick to the required work. Mr. Marston also made a graceful allusion to the services of the Municipal Secretary, Mr. Khamatey. Dr. Kapadia's services were highly eulogized in connection with the plague. His work was bold and he did it with a cool head. The cost of meeting the plague was Rs. 19,400, out of which Rs. 15,000 had been advanced by Government, to be repaid by instalments, commencing from 1903 and ending with 1907. But he should imagine that, considering the state of the Municipal finances, it was just as expecting to get blood out of a stone, and he thought Government should be approached with a request that the loan should be written off straight. He finally thanked all for their co-operation in whatever he did, as he was not entitled to the entire credit of stamping out the epidemic, when he knew that every one did his best in the matter. He again thanked those who had got up the demonstration and subscribed to the handsome present just placed before him.

Before leaving, Mr. Marston was garlanded and presented with a magnificent bouquet by Mr. Muncherjee Dadabhoy Bhavnagree, a member of the committee and president of the trustees of the Parsi Charitable Funds of Igatpuri. He left the meeting among the deafening cheers of the assembly.

THE NATIVE PRESS.

RETIREMENT OF MR. ALFRED KING.

REFERRING to the retirement of Mr. Alfred King, general store-keeper of the G. I. P. Railway, the *East Goftar* writes: Mr. Alfred King, general storekeeper of the G. I. P. Railway, who has been employed on the railway for about forty years, retires from service, and proceeds to his native country next week. Mr. King has passed the best part of his life in India, and the longer he stayed in this country, and became better acquainted with its people, he held them in greater reward and esteem. Though he has been a strict disciplinarian and a man with a high conception of duty, those who have the good fortune to serve under him admire and appreciate him for his sense of justice, and his friendly feeling and courtesy towards them. The consideration and kindness with which he has always treated his subordinates have enabled him to get more work out of them than if he had been stringent or severe. The happy relations which have existed between the head of the department and his numerous staff, have been productive of much advantage to the company as well as the men employed by it.

RELAXATION OF QUARANTINE RULES.

With regard to the gradual relaxation of the quarantine rules connected with the plague, the *Indian Spectator* says: We are glad to observe all over Bombay a steady relaxation of the quarantine rules in connection with plague. The authorities have also issued notices, calling upon Plague inspectors not to harass passengers unless appearances are clearly against them, nor to enter the carriages in which native ladies are travelling, and, in short, to treat them with the respect due to their sex; and to observe no difference between the treatment of Natives and European gentlemen. Let us hope the worse rigours of quarantine, isolation and segregation will soon be abandoned, and for ever.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA'S CURRENCY PROPOSALS.

In noticing the objections urged against the Government of India's proposals for the reform of the currency, the *Indian Spectator* states: The opinion seems to be gathering fast and wide that the strongest objections to the Government of India's proposals as regards further currency reform, are the extreme inadvisability of further increasing the volume of the rupee currency at the rate of 6 crores a year, and the impracticability of carrying out, without serious evil consequences, the programme of melting rupees and throwing the silver thus obtained on the market. The Government of India aver that their principal actuating motive is favourable to the commercial world. This being so, it is strange that they should have put forward a proposal which directly and expressly enhances that great evil of stirring up in the money market, which our exports and importers and our Exchange Banks have been so bitterly and so long complaining. Recent experiences have proved that, constituted as India is, it is more or less a fiction that there is a redundant rupee currency in it, and that the best way of bringing the idle surplus coinage into circulation is to fictitiously enhance the value of the rupee. Whatever the quantity of the hoards of rupees in India, whether in the form of ornaments or in the up-country, there is no disposition amongst the people to bring them out, after the Mint has been closed to private bullion than it formerly could.

The "Kaiser-i-Hind" discourses: We have never known in recent times of a more preposterous proposal than the one solemnly paraded in the Despatch of 4th May 1893 to insure fixity of exchange. The Government of Lord Elgin thought it was making a supreme effort to solve finally the problem of establishing a fixed ratio between the rupee and the sovereign. It therefore applied itself to the task with all the ability and ingenuity it could command, and yet after an incubation extending over well-nigh six months, it seems to have formulated proposals which no sooner they are examined than condemned—condemned alike by bankers and merchants, by traders and dealers, by men of ordinary business and by citizens in general.

The *Gujerati* observes: How perilous it is to tamper with the currency of a country without submitting the new currency nostrums to the most rigorous scrutiny of experts is well-shown by the currency history of India since June 1893. The currency legislation of that year has failed to achieve what it was fondly expected to accomplish. The Government of India's new scheme, which has been forwarded to the Secretary of State, have called forth universal disapproval. In commercial circles as well as elsewhere it has been emphatically condemned. It is a pity the composition of Sir Henry Fowler's Departmental Committee is not quite satisfactory. The question is that it has to consider are of a most complicated and far reaching character, and there is a general feeling that men of Lord Herschell's calibre and impartiality should have been appointed on the Committee.

THE PRESS COMMITTEE AT POONA.

Most of the native journals express their opinions against the formation of the Press Committee for Poona. Says the *Indian Spectator*: Is it under the new law against sedition that the Government of Bombay have formed a Press Committee for Poona? Evidently not, to judge from the jurisdiction allowed to the Committee over the Vernacular and the Anglo-Vernacular papers only. It is a pity the Bombay Government do not explain what they are about. The "personnel" of the Committee seems to be equally inexplicable. The City Magistrate as President and the Mamlatdar and the Police Inspector as principal members, among them, make a formidable parade of repressive authority against the unhappy weights of the Press; and the throwing in of two old pensioners as non-official censors weights the already too heavy scale down to the ground. We are not sure as to which of the members has the capacity to advise on public questions, though they may vie with one another in their loyalty, sedition or even independent expression of opinion. And how are these gentlemen going to work? We confess we do not like the look of this Press Committee. It may prove unable always to reach the dishonest journalist, while harassing and stultifying the honest. That is, surely, not what Government want.

The *Rast Goftar* observes: This looks like the thin end of the wedge preparatory to the establishment of a censorship in respect of the Poona press, which takes the cake for strong and seditious language against Government. No one can doubt the wisdom of appointing such a committee in Poona, but one cannot help inquiring why Government should have two weights and two measures in one Presidency? If Government thought that the appointment of such a committee was an absolute necessity in Poona, it stands to reason that such committees should exist in all parts of the Presidency where the press is more or less seditious. If the Poona press is generally of a licentious character, some of the papers in Bombay and other places are the worst specimens of their kind, and in the absence of a censorship like the one established in Poona, there will be no check placed over them.

The *Subodha Patrika* says: It is not quite clear why Government should have found it necessary to appoint a special Press Committee for Poona and what new advantage in the way of supervision is expected to be gained from the creation of that Committee which has not hitherto been secured or could not, with the issue of proper instructions,

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DEATHS FROM CHOLERA:—Municipality of Bombay, Superintendent, Water Works, Chinchpokli, 28th Oct., 97. Memo. No. 1738.—As at 1897-98:—Many of my workmen residing in the Municipal Chawl at Chinchpokli were attacked by Cholera and they have been SAVED by Batliwalla and Co.'s "CHOLERAL." There was not a single case of failure. I wish it should have still more wider circulation. . . . . As for Batliwalla's Ague Mixture or Pills no more Testimonials are required, when they are used with success for the Staff of the Bombay Municipality "Bombay Gazette," "Times of India," "Advocate of India," &c., &c. Sold by Chemists and Druggists at Re. 1 per bottle, or sent by Dr. Batliwalla, Worli, Dadar, Bombay. Discount to the Trade.

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AN APPEAL.

THE most acute distress and want are now prevailing in the city owing to the ravages of the plague.

In many instances all the bread-winners of families have been cut off and only helpless women and little children remain. The effects of the plague from this point of view are far more disastrous than those of famine.

A fund has accordingly been opened with a view to supplying those in want with money, food or clothing, as the case may be, and donations are earnestly solicited.

Contributions may be forwarded to the Municipal Commissioner, or Mr. Ghellabhai Haridas, Bank of Bombay, who has kindly consented to act as treasurer to the fund, the distribution of which will be supervised by Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Weir and Mr. J. Leask, in consultation with the Commissioner.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 18.

In the price of Consols there was a drop yesterday in London of 5-16 per cent., to 110 1-4. French Rentes declined 1-4 per cent, to 102 1-4; but Paris Exchange on London advanced 1-2 centime, to 25·33 1-2 fcs. Indian Sterling Loan was unchanged at 113, as were also 3 1-2 per cent. Rupee Securities at £62. Exchange on India at 30 days' sight remained at 1s. 3 1-2d. Bar Silver was unaltered in value at 26 5-16d. per oz.; while in New York the metal was 3-8 cent dearer, at 57 1-4 cents per oz., with demand Exchange on London 3-8 cent lower, at 4·58 7-8 dollars. About £225,000 was paid in Gold into the Bank of England yesterday.

The total quantity of Wheat afloat for the United Kingdom on Friday last was 2,400,000 quarters, compared with 2,400,000 quarters at the end of the previous week. White Delhi Wheat was quoted yesterday at 42 3-4s. per 492lbs., May-June shipmeut, to Hull, sellers via the Canal. For Guzerat Yellow Rapeseed 42 1-4s. per 416lbs. was quoted, May-June shipment, to Havre, Antwerp and Dunkirk, sellers via the Canal, market easier in tone; for Brown Rapeseed, 37 3-4s. per 416 lbs., May-June shipment, to Antwerp, business done via the Canal, in an easier market; Linseed, 39 1-4s. per 416 lbs., same shipment to Antwerp, sellers via the Canal, tone of the market easier.

The Liverpool Wool auction opened yesterday with a quiet but easier feeling, and prices 1-4d. lower. The number of bales offered was 29,000.

In the Cotton Market in Liverpool prices both spot and for arrival were unchanged except for Spot M d.-Americans, which declared 1-32d. to 3 17-32d. per lb. The day's sales were 7,000 bales, and the Imports 10,000 bales. The market closed quiet, Surats dull, Arrivals steady. The Manchester Market was steady.

Ready Mid.-Uplands remained in New York at 6 3-8 cents per lb.; August Futures advanced 3 points to 6·37 cents and December were quoted at 6·27 cents per lb. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 8,000 bales; and the arrivals to date compare as follows with those in 1897 and 1896 :—

	1898.	1897.	1896.
Tuesday's Receipts ...	8,000	3,000	5,000
Three days' ,, do, ...	13,000	12,000	13,000
Since 1st Sept.	8,233,000	6,528,500	5,053,000

To-day our local Cotton Market has been dull in tone, with but a small business passing. The Mills purchased 500 bales, and exporters 1,450 bales; total, 1,900 bales.

WHEAT and SEEDS.—These markets are quiet. Prices have declined further, but in the absence of enquiry from buyers, very little business has been done.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay, yesterday, were as follows :—

Cotton	13,654 bales.
Wheat	86,277 cwts.
Linseed	9,271 ,,
Rapeseed	13,544 ,,
Gingellyseed	2,717 ,,
Poppyseed	8,512 ,,
Castorseed	6,339 ,,
Rice	105,703 ,,

FREIGHTS are quiet. A line has been done for June shipment at 27s. 6d. per ton; for ready business 30s. to 32s. 6d. per ton is asked.

EXCHANGE.—The market opened steady at 1s. 4 1-16d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and 1s. 4 5-16d. for three months' sight Credits. The enquiry for Bank Paper was limited, and Merchants' Bills were very scarce. There was only a small business reported, and the market closed quiet as follows :—

Bank Bills on Demand ..1s. 4 1-16d.	per Rupee.
Do. Telegraphic ..1s. 4 1-16d.	,,
Credits 3 mts' sight ...1s. 4 5-16d. to 1s. 4 9-32	,,
Francs ..... 1·72	,,

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—Quotations were given today at 93 15-16 for Account, for 3 1-2 per Cents, and 86 for Threes.

SHARES.—Swadeshi Mills have declined Rs. 5 and Manockjee Petit have advanced Rs. 10. Bank of Bombay are Rs. 5 lower, at Rs. 1,240 per share.

BANK OF BENGAL.

The following is the Statement of the Affairs of the Bank compared with the Statement of 3rd May, 1898:—

LIABILITIES.	May 3. Rs. A. P.	May 10. Rs. A. P.
Capital paid up	2,00,00,000 0 0	2,00,00,000 0 0
Reserve Fund	83,50,000 0 0	83,50,000 0 0
Public Deposits, &c.....	1,65 63,930 5 2	1,76,23,734 10 7
Other Deposits, &c.....	4,81,37,491 2 5	4,53,48,766 4 4
Bank Post Bills, &c.....	4 69 908 11 2	3,39,502 7 6
Sundries	29,22,106 14 9	29,28,975 1 8
Rs.	9,63,83,437 1 6	9,45,96,978 8 1

ASSETS.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Government Securities ..	32,93,349 0 0	29,54,516 0 0
Other authorised Invtmts.	74,17,450 0 0	74,17,450 0 0
Loans on Govt. and other Authorised Securities ..	2,13,32,799 12 8	2,16,45,286 11 9
Accounts of Credit do. ..	2,65 34,979 5 6	2,57,61,997 0 1
Bills Discounted, &c.	1,16,99 267 9 11	1,15,58,035 14 9
Balances with other Banks	9 92 83 13 0	8,27,075 0 9
Bullion	3,678 3 0	3,477 3 6
Dead Stock	13,28 907 4 1	13 30,490 2 3
Lamps	11.875 11 3	11 507 3 10
Sundries	12,64,553 7 9	12 65 370 8 9
Cash, &c., at Head Office..	99,61 453 5 4	75,16 924 5 5
Do. at Branches....	1,35 43 314 9 0	1,46 97,338 5 7
Rs.	9,63 83 437 1 9	9 45 9 978 8 1

The following is the Bank's Memorandum of Liabilities and Assets up to 10th May, 1898.

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	
Treasury Balance at Head Office.....	1,33 545	Inc.
Do. at branches	9, 2 260	do.
Other Deposits	27,84,725	Dec.
Post Bills	70,406	do.
ASSETS.		
Bank's Investments	3.33,873	Dec.
Loans	3,12 467	Inc.
Accounts of Credit	7,72,052	Dec.
Mercantile Bills.....	4,43 2 2	do.
Cash at Head Office.....	14,45,409	do.
Cash at Branches	10,64,5.6	Inc.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORTS.

MAY 18.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.
AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, interrupted.
CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, interrupted. Via Shamo, perfect.
AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz Teneriffe, perfect. Via Lisbon St. Vincent, perfect.
Private telegrams in secret language for Greece cannot be accepted
Cable Pernambuco Ceara interrupted.
Communication between Bolama and Bissao interrupted.
All telegrams for Costa Rica may now be accepted at sender's risk.
Amazon Cable interrupted beyond Gerupa.
Telegrams for Nicaragua are subject to censure at San Juan Del Sur, and accepted at sender's risk.
Private telegrams in Code or Cipher to and from Philippines suspended.
Cable Hong Kong to Manila interrupted.
Private telegrams in Code or Cipher via Haiti are prohibited by Government United States. Diplomatic telegrams are accepted.
Telegrams for Costa Rica are subject to censure of Nicaragua Government.
Cable St Lucia St Vincent restored.
Communication is stopped with Barnadoes Grinada, Trinidad and Demerara. Messages are sent by best means means available without alteration rates.
Mozambique Lourencomarques Section interrupted
Telegrams for Porto Ribo subject to delay
Cable Lourenco Marques Durban interrupted
Restrictions on telegrams in Code or Cipher to and from Italy now removed.
Following telegrams are prohibited within the jurisdiction of the United states
(1) Spanish Government except those addressed to the Government of United States.
(2) in code or cipher to or from the West Indies, Venezuela, and Brazil except Government telegrams other than spanish telegrams named above.
(3) All telegrams in plain language containing information hostile to the United States during the war with Spain.
Amoor route interrupted near Blagowestchinsk.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Latest dates of Foreign Messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 18th May, 1898.

[Difference in Longitude allowed for.]

Via.	Latest Dates. D.	H.	M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Minutes
Turkey	17	5	15 p.m.	19	47
Teheran	18	2	18 p.m.	...	45
Suez	18	3	6 p.m.	...	6

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m., of the 18th May, 1898.

	Maximum Time. H.	M.	Minimum Time. H.	M.
From Calcutta	...	36	...	1
,, Karachi	...	22	...	4
,, Madras	...	14	...	1

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

BOSCOLO—May 14, the wife of Mr F A Boscolo, Proprietor, Hotel Continental, of a daughter.
COVENTRY—May 13, at Motihari, Champarun, the wife of F M Coventry, of a son.
SAWERS—May 8, at Naini Tal, the wife of C D Sawers, Manager, National Bank of India, Limited, Delhi, of a son.
WINDLE—May 14, at Kotagiri, the wife of R G Windle, of a son.

DEATHS.

BARTLETT—May 3, at the Eden Sanitarium, Darjeeling, George Francis Bartlett, P W D, retired, aged 62 years and 5 months.
DURAND—May 12, at Simla, Marjorie, the infant daughter of Colonel and Mrs Algernon Durand, aged 1 month and 2 days.
PASLEY—May 11, at Nagpur, C P, George William Pasley, late Superintendent Office of Inspector-General of Police and Jails, C P, aged 61 years.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1898.

LORD SALISBURY has very sensibly declined the innocent invitation of Lord Kimberley to discuss Mr. Chamberlain's firebrand address at Birmingham. The Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary could not discuss a discourse delivered by the Colonial Secretary if it were not before him in some official form. An excellent excuse, for although the verbatim report that doubtless appeared in all the daily papers might have caught his lordship's eye, or if they had not, they might have been incorrect. They may have been, like certain programmes, unauthorised. Better say nothing about the subject. The time could be more profitably devoted to a disquisition on foreign affairs as they present themselves to the mind and judgment of the responsible Foreign Minister. In his view the policy of Great Britain is unchanged, especially as regards the Chinese Empire, which she desires to maintain while developing commerce and preserving friendly relations with all nations, including Russia. The occupation of Wei-Hai-Wei is merely intended to encourage China to resist the domination of one Power. Other people may imagine that the Chinese Empire is in a critical position, and that alliances are worth having even at the cost of war and would be cheap at the price, but Lord Salisbury, always sceptical as ever, is quite unable to believe in the collapse of a nation of four hundred millions of brave people. The Continental press has been strongly admadverting on Mr. Chamberlain's fulmination against Russia, and his suggestion that she does not disregard her promises when they are found inconvenient—all other nations without exception religiously observe the pledged word. It may recover its equanimity on hearing that British policy is just what it was, and that Lord Salisbury is not seeking an alliance with the United States to get even with Russia in China. If the bourses retrieve the decline which they experienced under the first surprise of hearing a shrill war-whoop from Birmingham from the lips of a Colonial Secretary, the incident may be forgotten, for a while at all events. The British public, and for that matter every public that has yet existed, can give its attention to no more than one absorbing topic at a time. The war between the belligerents on either side of the Atlantic, and the possibilities of a naval battle fought with high explosives and torpedo destroyers will for the moment supersede the interest felt in perhaps the most remarkable pronouncement by a Cabinet minister—impartially addressed to a friendly foreign Power and his own colleagues—that this generation has seen. But that it will be heard of again, and possibly lead to some unexpected developments no one can doubt.

Leaving aside the provocation to Russia which, though a Christian State, proud of her orthodoxy, does not turn her other check to the smiter as a Christian State ought to do, the partisan character of the diatribe will rankle in the heart of every Conservative in England, and evoke bitter resentment that will find vent at the first convenient opportunity. To appreciate the true nature of that appeal to the public over the heads of his colleagues on matters appertaining especially to the department presided over by Lord Salisbury, we have only to ask what Mr. Chamberlain would have thought and said, if the Home Secretary or the Chancellor of the Exchequer had harangued a public meeting in a large provincial city telling the world that the state of the Colonies was serious and critical. Suppose an erring colleague were unkind enough to say that in South Africa Transvaal repudiates the suzerainty of the Queen, it is found necessary to have a large military force of the three arms echeloned on the frontiers of the Orange Free State and the territories in which President Kruger has been accumulating arms and ammunation in large quantities ever since the Jameson Raid; that all Sierra Leone has risen, that traders and missionaries are shot at sight; that the chief of the insurrection has defeated our troops, beheaded a clergyman, and sent the women and children into French territory in order to fight it out in the jungles during the rains; that the West Indian Islands are well nigh ruined by the competition of beet-root sugar, and the consequent discontent is only too likely to find vent in a movement for annexation to the United States so as to procure free access to the American markets now closed by hostile tariffs; that Sir Wilfred Lawson and other Canadian ministers have, contrary to all precedent, visited Washington and entered into direct relations with the President and Secretaries of the United States Government, and that Mr. Goldwin Smith was never tired of urging the absorption of the Dominion in the States. All this and much more might be said by a practiced debater, equally solicitous for the welfare of the Colonies and for his permanent advertisement, as the war marked out by Providence to provide a remedy for the dangers he was the first to discover, and disclose. What the honourable member for West Birmingham would say of such an attempt to take the direction of Colonial politics out of his hands we may in part imagine, but can never fully realise until the experiment is tried.

VERY little was heard in the course of the late famine regarding the position in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, but a narrative of the famine there which has now been issued shows that in some portions of the Berars the distress was considerable, and also that the visitation had some unique aspects. It was occasioned, however, by high prices rather than by lack of food-stuffs. Although no good rain fell from August 1896 to the following June, the cotton crop—the chief money crop of Berar—was fair, and juar, the staple food of the people, was an eight-anna crop, except in the worst talukas, where it was not more than a two or three-anna crop. Under these circumstances it seems at first sight surprising that the price of juar was nearly trebled, and that of wheat more than doubled. The explanation is that the Berars lie between two greatly affected districts; on the north and east lay the Central Provinces, the population of which was in exceptional distress, and on the south and west was Bombay and the Hyderabad districts, some of which had a greater failure of the rains than Berar. Hence when the cry of famine arose in September 1896, a large export of grain occurred, the dealers being naturally desirous to sell in the dearest market. The Deputy Commissioner of Akola even went so far as to wire for permission to stop exports, but as this measure would have been contrary to the expressly declared policy of the Government of India, the request was refused. The principles underlying this refusal are undoubtedly sound. Apart from the injurious effects inevitable from State interference in private trade, there is the consideration that it would be of little value to construct unremunerative railways for protective purposes if local administrations were allowed to interdict the export of grain from districts fairly well off to others less fortunate. It is only right and fair that freedom of trade should be allowed to operate naturally in relieving the districts where most distress prevails, and thereby distributing the pressure. It is better that a hundred million persons should pay high prices for food that can be obtained than that 50,000 people should be unable to obtain the necessaries of life at any price whatever. In other words, the more evenly the pressure can be distributed, the better is the prospect of complete success in the Government purpose of preventing a single death from starvation.

It is disquieting to find that 203 deaths from starvation were recorded in the Assigned Districts, but it is believed that in most cases the victims were immigrants from the Central Provinces. It was found in the Berars that there was no likelihood of relief operations being required in any district except Melghat until the end of February or beginning of March. Melghat is a forest taluka, and operations commenced there on December 1st 1896, while in the other districts camps were not opened until the beginning of March. The total outlay on relief camps was about four lakhs and three-quarter, while the value of the work performed calculated at ordinary rates is Rs. 3,64,000. The famine came upon the Berars so quickly that some difficulty was experienced in providing suitable works. Owing to the peculiar conditions under which the Assigned Districts are held as British territory they have been supplied with public works on a scale regarded by many observers as necessarily extravagant. Even Mr. Bullock, the Commissioner, has to admit that Berar "is intersected with good roads, and any considerable addition to this number would be a burden to the province, and their maintenance would be impossible." Tanks are in his opinion a bad form of remunerative work, canals are unsuitable, and railways cannot ordinarily be constructed with relief labour to advantage. Under these circumstances, Mr. Bullock thinks that if the famine had continued for another year the provision of work for the labourers would have been a difficult matter. The Commissioner believes that the case can best be met in future by granting state loans liberally to all occupants of lands on the security of their holdings repayable in very easy instalments. In this opinion Mr. Plowden, the Resident at Hyderabad, concurs, but intimates that this will not relieve the authorities from the necessity to devise a programme of large works in future famines; he admits its, difficulty but says the attempt must be made. Berar must be the only Province in India where public works have been so lavishly provided that the authorities are in great perplexity as to how work can be provided for the people when the next famine has to be dealt with. The finances of the province are so flourishing that of the twelve lakhs spent on famine relief, 10½ lakhs fall upon its own revenues.

THE memorial that has been forwarded to her Majesty's Ministers by City men, including a majority of the Courts of the Bank of England, has led Lord George Hamilton to make an explanation as to the terms of reference to the Currency Committee. In view of the request made to the Committee in the reference to submit suggestions "for establishing a satisfactory currency and securing a stable exchange," the City men naturally came to the conclusion that the question of the re-opening of the Mints could not be considered by the Committee, and they have sent in their memorial protesting both against this exclusion and against the Government plan. Lord George Hamilton now says that if the Currency Committee consider the policy of closing the Mints in India relevant, there is nothing in the terms of reference to prevent them inquiring into the results thereof. The duty of deciding what is relevant or irrelevant is thrown very rightly upon the Committee itself. But unless Reuter's summary of Lord George Hamilton's reply to Mr. Maclean's question is incomplete it cannot be held to mean that the question whether it is advisable or not to re-open the Mints is one upon which the Committee may report. One of the principal duties of the Committee is to ascertain from evidence what have been the results of the policy of endeavouring to secure a stable exchange; in other words the financial and currency history of the last five years will be closely enquired into. But both the Government of India and the Secretary of State are agreed that it will never do to re-open the Mints, and the reference to the Committee so far as we know at present in India does not permit of the question of free coinage being discussed in the report. However, the City men are bringing the utmost pressure to bear for the battle royal of a gold versus a silver standard to be fought out once more. The memorial protests against the composition of the Committee, presumably because it contains so large a proportion of members presumed to be favourable to a gold standard, and also because of the absence of really eminent experts. The memorial further asserts that large fresh sterling loans will gravely endanger British commerce, and that the City cannot countenance a gold loan for currency purposes. If the City really sets its face against the loan contemplated under the Government scheme their flotation will be anything but an easy matter. It would be no light thing for the present Cabinet to alienate the support of City men, though at present it does not appear that any concession has been made to the agitation they have raised. But the prospect that the home Government will ever give their sanction to a scheme that is opposed by the bimetallists as a further desertion of silver and by the City, as calculated to impose a serious drain on the gold reserve of the country, is very slight indeed. It seems an equally remote contigency that the Currency Committee will report in favour of Sir James Westland's scheme, notwithstanding that the author is going home to give evidence regarding it.

BEFORE temporarily quitting the North-West Provinces and Oudh, on six months' leave, Sir Antony MacDonnell has deemed it fitting to place on record the obligations of Government to those officers who have been dealing with the plague at Hurdwar. In so doing he testifies to their absolute self-sacrifice and disregard for personal comfort. To their forethought and energy it is due that an outbreak of virulent bubonic plague in the centre of the Hindu pilgrimage has been grappled with and struggled with for nearly a year; that the disease has been kept from spreading, the mortality maintained at insignificant proportions, and Hurdwar was kept open to pilgrims throughout that time. These officers were Messrs. Williams, Commissioner of Meerut; Winter, Collector of Saharanpur; and Kendall, Joint Magistrate, and Drs. Thomson, Scotland; and Elphick. There is no doubt that these gentlemen had an exceedingly difficult task and that they performed it satisfactorily. The Lieutenant-Governor's eulogium, therefore, was not only kindly, but fully justified. Jwalapur was the town where their best efforts were required, and we observed that in referring to anti-plague operations there Sir Antony MacDonnell places on record his opinion as to the cause of the disturbance which occurred there and the manner in which it was officially dealt with. Jwalapur is inhabited by a mixed community of Brahmins and traders of various castes differing from Hurdwar and Kankthal, is not possessing leading men of admitted authority and position to represent it, and to exercise beneficial influence over the more ignorant and prejudiced members of the community. Had there been a man of commanding influence present on the 30th March, observes the Lieutenant-Governor, or failing such a man, had the Joint Magistrate not miscalculated on an excited crowd's respect for authority and his own previous popularity with them, the disturbance would probably never have occurred. As things happened, the people got out of hand. But their disregard for authority was short-lived; and the recovery of their habitual attitude of obedience by the people is evidenced by the fact that, having been called on by the Lieutenant-Governor to surrender the men who assaulted the officers, they did surrender them within the allotted time when their angry feelings had had time to subside. The assailants have since been tried, convicted, and sentenced. Sir Antony MacDonnell is a strong man, and having once laid down a policy he is capable of seeing it carried out. The outbreak was firmly dealt with. Since the outbreak the people have shown a penitent disposition, and have offered no opposition to the enforcement of the plague rules. Neither the sanitary system nor policy of dealing with the plague has been altered. There was no alteration whatever of policy or system, and the rules in force before the disturbance took place are in force now. So well have they answered that only one case has occurred there since April 13.

IF the account of the surprise and destruction of the Spanish fleet at Manila telegraphed to us from Rangoon yesterday be correct, the naval and military authorities entrusted with the safety of the Philippines were guilty of nothing short of criminal negligence. On the 22nd April the Governor-General issued a proclamation declaring that a state of war existed between the United States and Spain, and ordered all Spaniards and sons of Spaniards to take up arms in defence of the country. Efforts were made to put the defences of Manila into someting like order. But it was found that the mines and torpedoes supposed to be available were in great part mythical. Some second-hand wire was purchased from a foreign steamer to give the means of exploding any of them. The shells for the batteries were lacking in essentials that it was next to impossible to supply in time. Seeing that the prospects of war was a matter of notoriety for the whole world for many weeks previous, it is amazing that only the announcement that it had broken caused inquiries to be made as to the means of defence. Even then the neglect of all measures shown to prevent a surprise by the hostile squadron known to be at striking distance in Hong Kong awaiting the declaration of war, amounted to fatuity. No watch seems to have been kept, no scouts sent out to search for the enemy with the electric light. All the war vessels were kept in the harbour anchored near the batteries of Cavite. The American fleet found no

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

THE HISPANO-AMERICAN WAR.

LATEST FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

LONDON, MAY 18.

No further news has yet been received of the Spanish or American Squadrons.

The only news is from the seat of war in Cuba according to which an American launch, while removing torpedoes at the mouth of the Cardenas harbour, has been blown up and seventeen on board perished.

REBEL DEFEAT IN CUBA.

The Spanish General Rodriguez has defeated the Cuban rebels in the Carnen Hills, killing two hundred of them.

THE "TIMES" ON LORD SALISBURY'S SPEECH.

The *Times* refers with satisfaction to the marked friendliness of Lord Salisbury's references to Japan in his speech, last night, and advocates the training of small native military forces for service at Wei-Hei-Wei.

THE GERMAN PRESS ON THE ALLIANCE QUESTION.

The German semi-official press regards Mr. Chamberlain's suggestion regarding alliances as pointing to Germany, and discusses the speech in a friendly spirit.

THE FEELING IN AMERICA.

The sentiment in America in favour of an Anglo-Saxon alliance appears to be general and is increasing

DEATH OF CAPTAIN BAILLIE.

Captain Baillie, of the Seaforth Highlanders, has died at Cairo from his wounds received in the battle at Atbara.

SCRATCHING OF A DERBY HORSE.

Captain Greer's horse, Wild Fowler, has bee scratched for the Derby.

MR. GLADSTONE IN EXTREMIS.

LONDON MAY 17.

Mr. Gladstone is in extremis and almost unconscious. He occasionally is heard murmuring fragments of prayers in French.

EVACUATION OF THESSALY.

The evacuation of Thessaly by the Turks has commenced.

A BRITISH CRUISER SENT TO THE PHILIPPINES.

Her Majesty's cruiser Pique has been ordered to Iloilo to protect British interests.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH.

In the House of Lords, to-night, Lord Kimberley asked for explanations regarding Mr. Chamberlain's Birmingham speech.

Lord Salisbury, in reply, declined to discuss the matter without the speech before him.

His Lordship said the policy of Great Britain was unchanged, and consists in maintaining the Chinese Empire, developing commerce and preserving friendly relations with all nations. The aims of the occupation of Wei-Hai-Wei were intended to encourage China to resist the domination of one Power.

His Lordship said he was unable to believe in the collapse of a nation of 400 millions of brave people.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

Lord George Hamilton, replying to a question put by Mr. Maclean, in the Commons, said that if the Currency Committee consider the policy of closing the Mints in India relevant, there is nothing in the terms of reference to prevent them enquiring into the results thereof.

THE CHITRAL RELIEFS.

FATAL AVALANCHE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, MAY 18.

While the relieved Chitral troops were crossing the Lowari Pass on the march towards India, on the 16th, an avalanche fell, killing a Jamadar, Havildar, and Naik, of the 27th Punjab Infantry. A sepoy was rescued after being buried five hours under the snow. The passage of the pass was very troublesome, owing to fresh snow and rain. The first half of the relieved troops arrived at Dir on the 17th, the second half halted at Mirza. All is quiet.

THE BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

The "Honours Gazette" will be published on the morning of Saturday, 21st May.

SPORT IN CALCUTTA.

Simla is putting a strong eleven into the field against Patiala to-morrow. It comprises Messrs. H. N. Watson, E. L. French, J. O. Hewett, T. A. Andrew, C. E. Thornton, H. D. Foulkes, H. Hensman, Colonel Nixon, Majors Beresford and Bythell, and Surgeon-Major Croly.

The Patiala's eleven comprises the Maharajah, the Kowe Sahib, Prince Ranjitsinghji, K. M. Mistri, B. M. Billimoria, M. Manzoor, J. R. Williams, Tarachand Gokulchand, Badesi Ram, and Nanak Ram.

THE PLAGUE IN THE PUNJAB.

A NEW VILLAGE INFECTED.

LAHORE, MAY 18.

A new village, named Chokran, in Jullundur district, is reported to be plague-infected. This is the first new village attacked since the 28th April.

THE DISTURBANCES AT BHANGAL.

SEVENTY-FIVE RIOTERS SENTENCED.

Seventy-five of the rioters who resisted a plague observation party at the village of Bhangal, have been convicted and sentenced to periods of imprisonment ranging from one month to one year.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

PORT SAID, MAY 17.

The B. I. S. N. Co.'s steamer Matiana, left here this afternoon.

COLOMBO, MAY 18.

Orient mail steamer Oratava from Australia arrived.

The steamer Bormida, left Hongkong for Bombay to-day the 18th inst.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, MAY 17.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats dull.

Good Bhownuggur	3

The Manchester market has been steady.

2½ per cent. Consols	110 1-4
3 per cent. Rentes	102 1-4
3½ per cent. Gravelins Loan	118
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	92
Bar Silver	29 5-16

The sum of about £225,000 has been paid into the Bank of England.

THE PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MAY 18.

On Tuesday, there were forty-seven deaths recorded in the different wards of the city from all causes. The daily death-rate is the highest in wards Nos. 8 and 13 The former showed eleven and the latter six, compared with four and two, respectively, in the previous five years. These were seizures or deaths from plague. One case was reported yesterday.

INOCULATIONS.

On Monday. Baboo Mohiny Mohunroy's family was inoculated, and on Tuesday twenty-eight persons were inoculated in the Municipal Laboratory by Drs. Cook and Dutt. Yesterday, seventeen members of Moulvi Mohomed Yusuf's family and household underwent the operation at the Moulvi's private residence in European Asylum Lane. Dr. H. M. Roy has been deputed by the Central Provinces Government from Nagpore to learn inoculation work. He himself was inoculated yesterday. Rai Jogendro Chunder Mitter Bahadoor, of the Detective Police, Calcutta, had all the members of his family inoculated on Tuesday.

Applications for inoculation are being received every day, the prejudice against it evidently dying out steadily.

ATTACK ON AN AMBULANCE PARTY.

THE DOCTOR SEVERLEY ASSAULTED.

Shortly after noon, yesterday, information reached the Health Office that a young up-country Hindu was suspected of having been attacked with plague, and that his father was willing that he be removed to the Plague Hospital at Maniktolla. Immediately on receipt of the news, Dr. Chamow sent Dr. Surrendro Nath Bose, Superintendent, Disinfecting Department, to No. 41, Mott's Lane, where the suspect lived, to examine the patient. The victim exhibited pronounced symptoms of plague, and Dr. Bose had the sick man removed, no objection being raised by his people, into an ambulance, which he had taken out with him.

Nothing occurred till opposite the Union Chapel, where a Bengalee, named Ashutosh Chuckerbutty, who was in no way connected with the patient, rushed up, and said: "You must not remove this man." On the doctor remonstrating with him, the Baboo struck him across the face with an umbralla, causing an ugly cut below the right eye. The doctor grappled with his assailant, who thereupon called out to the people about. Immediately a crowd gathered, and handled the doctor roughly with fists and umbrellas and would have soundly thrashed him, but for the prompt arrival of the police daroga of Taltolla Thanna who arrested the Baboo. On the crowd gathering, the coolie attendants of the ambulance bolted, and after the crowd had dispersed the conveyance was pushed by some relatives of the sick man a good way up to Dhurrumtollah Street. While going along that street a mehter suddenly rushed before the ambulance, followed by a crowd of about 150, calling out, "Maro doctor sala ko." Most of the men were

ARMED WITH UMBRELLAS,

and the doctor was again assaulted severely. Finding it useless to contend with the crowd he tried to jump into a passing tram-car, and he grasped the rails, but before he could get in, three men of the crowd seized him by his legs and endeavoured to pull him off. Fortunately for the doctor, another policeman from the same Thanna came up just in time to rescue him, and arrest the three of the mob, the mehter among them. While the doctor was on the foot-board of the car a Modee grocer rushed out of the shop, snatched the doctor's umbrella from him, and broke it over his back. Under police escort, supplied by Inspector Hamilton, who turned out with a strong body of men from the Thanna close by, the doctor was enabled to take his charge to Campbell Hospital, where, however, a dmission was refused, as there was no suitable accommodation for up-country Hindus. The patient was then despatched to Maniktolla, and the doctor went to the Thanna to make a report to the Inspector, who, after recording the statement, sent him to the Chandney Hospital under police escort to have his injuries attended to.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Strachey presided at a sitting of the court yesterday.

RE MOON-HI ISMAIL KADERBHOY.

Mr. Mauker, on behalf of the insolvent, applied for an interim order, which was granted.

RE SORABJEE MANEKJEE.

Mr. Kothare, for the insolvent, applied for an extention of the interim order for two months. His Lordship granted the application.

RE SOOKHRAJ KUSTOORCHAND AND ANOTHER.

Mr. Mauker, on behalf of the insolvents, applied for the usual interim order, which was granted.

RE HASSU JANNA.

Mr. Manker, for an opposing creditor, applied for a rule *nisi*, calling upon insolvent to show cause why he should not proceed with the matter of his petition. The learned counsel said the insolvent filed his schedule in December 1896, and had it amended in January 1897, but he had done nothing to assist the Official Assignee. His Lordship granted a rule *nisi* as applied for.

MR E. A. FORD.

Mr. Kothare, for the insolvent, applied for leave to serve notices, which was granted.

RE KHIMJEE PRAGJEE.

Mr. Manker, for the insolvent, applied for leave to serve notices and to amend the schedule. His Lordship granted the application.

RE DYABHOY PREMJEE.

On the application of Mr. Mauker, the insolvent was granted an extension of the interim order, with leave to serve notice.

DISCHARGES.

The following insolvents were granted discharges —Shankar Ganmoo; Shaik Hossein; Hassum Gomer and Lutif Gomer.

THE VASCO DA GAMA CENTENARY.

A LITERARY SESSION.

THE "Saran Literario," which was organised by the managing committee of the Institute Luso-Indiano in commemoration of the Vasco da Gama fourth centenary was held yesterday, at 7 p.m, at the hall of the institute. The hall was artistically decorated with flags and evergreens and illuminated with China lanterns and buntes. Exactly at 7 p.m., his Grace the Archbishop of Cranganore and Bishop of Damaun, accompanied by his secretary, alighted at the entrance of the Institute. The String Band which was in attendance struck up the Portuguese National Anthem and his Lordship was duly welcomed by the secretary of the institute. A large photo which was specially reproduced by Mr. Edward deSouza for the occasion was conspicuously placed at the entrance of the hall. Above the president's chair could be seen a beautifully designed Portuguese crown. The hall was crowded by members of the Portuguese community. His Lordship, in taking the chair spoke in a few appropriate words about the historical facts regarding the memorable event which they were celebrating, and then called upon Mrs. Theodolinda da Gama to deliver her address. It was really a very impressive address. She was followed by Dr. Delpsino Godinho and Leopold da Gama, both of whom it is needless to say received a hearty ovation from the assembly. Between the intervals the String Band played a selection of music. By the request of his Lordship, Dr. Gerson da Cunha also made a short speech. The secretary having thanked the assembly for their attendance, he asked them to join him in proposing a vote of thanks to the president, and the interesting proceedings terminated.

DISTURBANCE AT A KARACHI PLAGUE CAMP.

THERE was a disturbance in the Detention Camp at Keamari on Wednesday evening last, caused mainly through a number of Pathans who are shortly proceeding to Mombasa, having been engaged as coolies for the Railway there. Most of them are turbulent characters, engaged at Karachi. They collected together and attacked a sepoy on duty near their houses and afterwards made a rush for the others, going so far as to rush into the huts occupied by them. The sepoys were outnumbered and the Pathans violent, but after dispersing the guard no attempt was to made to molest any others, or the European soldiers who were carrying on their duties in the disinfecting camp near by. They appeared satisfied after the sepoys were driven off, and returned quietly into quarantine. In the row two sepoys were injured, one of them rather seriously, and we understand that half dozen or more Pathans also received slight injuries. All the excitement, caused as above, was a matter of very few moments. There are over a couple of hundred Pathans and Panjabis in quarantine at present. A company of the Bombay Grenadiers together with General Cooke and other officers were soon on the spot. The Pathans gave some trouble on their arrival in the Detention Camp, but Lieut. Law, who has an excellent manner of dealing with those going into camp, managed to ride over the difficulty and got the men to do exactly as he wanted.—*Sind Times.*

NEWS OF THE DAY

LIEUTENANT HESLER of the Buffs has joined the staff of Sir West Ridgeway, Governor of Ceylon, as officiating Private Secretary.

COLONEL HUTCHINSON will deliver lectures on the Tirah Expedition at the United Service Institution in Simla towards the end of next month.

THE health of the troops at the Malakand and in the Swat Valley generally is reported good, but one death has occurred in the Buffs from enteric.

MAJOR-GENERAL SYMONS and Brigadier-General Hammond are among the officers who will probably proceed on leave when the Khyber Force is further reduced.

THE local Government have sanctioned the formation of a force of fifty armed police for the protection of the European employees at Howrah. The force will be located at Seebpore, where the quarters for it are to be immediately erected.

THE Madras Government are now contemplating legislation in connection with the sugarcane disease, which is creating considerable havoc in the Kistna delta.

THE net imports of gold into India during the month of March last amounted in value to Rs. 50,18,221; and the net imports of silver during the same month to Rs. 98,89,441.

THE Government of India has expressed its inability to share in the expense proposed for the extension of the Survey of India triangulation to the Malay Peninsula. The proposal was made by th Straits Settlements.

IT is understood to be intended to keep at Peshawar a sufficient number of picked transport animals to ensure fully the mobility of a column between two and three thousand strong. Plenty of animals will be available when the various forces now on the frontier are demobilised. Transport for a moveable column will be maintained at the Malakand also.

A SUIT has been instituted by the rate-payers of Howrah against Messrs-Martion & Co., Agents for the Howrah-Amta Railway. It is alleged that when the Howrah Municipality sanctioned the use of their roads for the construction of the railway, it was stipulated that the engines should be smokeless and that the speed should not be more than five miles an hour when running through the town. The rate-payers living on the roads over which the trains run complain that they are unable to keep their windows open for the greater portion of the day because of the engines emit, and they further allege that the drivers run the trains at a reckless speed.

THE Directors of the South Indian Railway Company have decided to recommend the payment on 1st July, 1898, of a dividend out of surplus profits of 20s. per cent., which, with the guaranteed interest, will make a distribution of £2 10s. for the half-year, or at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum as compared with 4 1-2 per cent. for the corresponding half of the previous year.

THE outturn of home and foreign-grown rubber in Assam during 1896-97 aggregated 4,047 maunds against 3,234 maunds in the previous year, and the duty on this to Rs. 56,178. By far the largest quantity of this was extracted from trees in the Lakhimpur District, the Darrang, and Khasia and Jaintia Hills districts coming next. In the Naga Hills the constant demand and the high prices obtainable have of late years somewhat exhausted the supply. The hills have been scoured from end to end, and the trees are so badly cut about that many are already dead. Every year the men go further afield tapping new trees in distant and secluded valleys, all trees on the frequented routes having long since ceased to be worth the trouble of tapping. The Chiefs of the Naga Hills villages, of course, get their royalty on the outturn, and so long as they continue to realise this provision for the future of the rubber trade does not enter into their concern.

ELEPHANT hunting is a fairly profitable source of revenue to the Assam Government, and the operations are carried out in each of the districts of the Brahmaputra Valley as well as in the Khasia and Jaintia and Naga Hills districts. Of 39 mahals in the Assam Valley, only 20 were leased during 1896-97 against 22 in 189 -96, there being no bids for the others. The revenue demand consequently showed a decrease from Rs. 39,155 to Rs. 36,396, but, owing to the leasing of the mahals in the Khasia and Jaintia Hills and the Naga Hills, which had remained closed in the previous year, the net provincial receipts increased from Rs. 39,155 to Rs. 45,701, of which Rs. 16,801 were realised from licenses and Rs. 28,900 from royalty. The total number of elephants captured during the progress of operations was 280 from the districts as follows: —Goalpara (Kamrup Duars) 73; Kamrup 15; Darrang 59; Nowgong 6; Sibsagar 17; Lakhimpur 53; Naga Hills 30; Khasia and Jaintia Hills 27. The total number caught during 1895-96 was 238.

LAST Thursday, before Mr. Gordon, District and Missions Judge of Chittagong, the station-master of Seisari and three of the station staff, on the Assam Bengal Railway, were charged with attempting to wreck a mail train by placing a huge boulder on the line about a mile from the station. Inspector Butterfield, of the Government Railway Police, had been specially deputed to enquire into the case, a reward of Rs. 700 being offered for the arrest of the offenders. The accused were defended by counsel, the defence being that the case was trumped up, and that three of the accused who had confessed their guilt in the lower court were forced to do so. The fourth accused turned Queen's evidence, and the jury, consisting of natives, brought in a unanimous verdict of guilty against the other three accused, including the station-master. The Judge, in sentencing the accused to three years' rigorous imprisonment each, remarked that the offence was a very serious one, though happily the result was not so serious on which account he had dealt leniently with the prisoners.

THE *Ceylon Observer* publishes the following account of the battle of Manila as a telegram from Singapore dated May 9th says:—The American warships called at Bolinao Subig, reached the entrance to Manila Bay on Saturday and entered the southern part unperceived, except the last two of the ships of the squadron. The forts fired, but the Boston, and McCulloch quickly silenced them. They steamed slowly ahead and arrived before Manila at daybreak and unwarned; the cable near Mariveles was cut. The Spanish fleet was found at Cavite. The Spaniards fired at long range but with no damaging effect. The Americans steamed four hundred yards and then wheeled in line and crossed, sending broadsides as the ships passed. It was a tremendous fire. The Spaniards were noticeable for their bad gunnery. At eight o'clock the Americans stopped for a time. At eleven o'clock the Baltimore renewed the attack and destroyed the Cavite forts. The Reina Christina attacked the Olympia, but was forced to retire, raked by 8-inch shell, which bursting her boiler, killed the captain and sixty others. The fire ignited Cavite, which surrendered. The Spaniards anchored powerless and steamless. The result was a complete surprise. Manila is starving

THE "Bibliotheque Nationale" of Paris has just acquired what is probably the most valuable collection of Mexican antiquities existing in Europe. These were collected by Signor Boturini, a Senator of Milan, who fled to Spain as a political refugee in 1735, and subsequently found his way to the land of Montezuma, and there, bit by bit, got possession of manuscripts and other relics scattered about in convents or in private houses. The task was by no means easy, for the followers of Cortes and the Catholic missionaries had remorselessly swept away all visible traces of the older civilisation. Boturini came back to Europe, and died in 1750, and for nearly a century his treasures were lost sight of. After the Revolution of 1830 Joseph Aubin, a French explorer, was sent to Mexico, and by mere accident found nearly the whole of Boturini's collection in the hands of the monks from whom he bought them at a price which ruined him. The collection subsequently found its way into the hands of a M. Goupil, who left it in 1896 to his widow, who has carried out his intentions by handing it over to the nation.

THE Bank of England is fast becoming known for its new policies. Quite recently it took unusual steps to protect its reserve by making advances, chiefly to Germany, free of charge, on condition that the repayment should be made in gold coin. This action came as a surprise to the market, and accounted in a measure for the maintenance of the Bank rate at four per cent. Now the Governor and directors of the Bank have made another movement quite without precedent in the history of the Bank, and it is a new policy which has set all the City discussing the acumen and foresight displayed by the directors in strengthening the position of the Bank against all sudden emergencies. Hitherto the buying price for bar gold was officially 77s. 9d., but in the open market the price has been as high as 77s. 11 1-2 per ounce, in consequence of the strong demand experienced for the metal for America. Now the directors have put up the price for official buying from 77s. 9d. to 77s. 9 1-2d. By advancing the price for the metal the directors, no doubt, are animated by the desire to attract all the metal possible to the central institution at this moment, and as a result most of the Cape and other foreign arrivals are expected to be sent into the vaults of the Bank. As before mentioned, this is the first occasion in the history of the Bank that the buying price for bar gold has been raised, and the opinion prevails in well-informed financial circles that this is the thin end of the wedge as a means of quiet competition with the outside bullion market. The Mint price for the metal is 77s. 10 1-2d., so that the rise to 77s. 9 1-2d. is but a small advance, and rather supports the impession that it is only a question of a short time when the Bank will move the price up to 77s. 10d. At this quotation the attraction will be sufficient to ensure most of the arrivals of the metal going into the Threadneedle Street institution.

A PRECEDENT for the action of Spain in augmenting her fleet by commissioning merchant vessels is to be found in connection with the Franco-German war. On July 24, 1870, the King of Prussia issued a decree ordering the creation of a volunteer marine, the inducement to join being an offer to private owners of premiums varying from 10,000 to 50,000 thalers for the destruction of French ships. M. de Lavalette, the French Ambassador in London, presented a "note verbale" to the British Government pointing out that the scheme bore a striking resemblance to privateering, and submitting that the creation of such an auxiliary marine was contrary to the Declaration of Paris. Lord Granville replied, however, that, in the opinion of the law officers of the Crown, there were substantial distinctions between the proposed naval volunteer force sanctioned by the Prussian Government and the system of privateering, which, under the designation of "*la course*," the Declaration of Paris was intended to suppress; and that, as far as the said law officers could judge, the vessels referred to in the decree would be, to all intents and purposes, in the service of the Prussian Government, and the crews would be under the same discipline as the crews on board vessels belonging permanently to the Federal navy. This being so, the law officers of the Crown considered that her Majesty's Government could not object to the decree as infringing the Declaration of Paris.

AN attempt is being made by certain Radical members of the House to make a definite demonstration of their sympathy with the United States in the present struggle. The lesson of the message to the Greek King has not been entirely forgotten, and it is not suggested that any telegram should be despatched. But the plan is mooted of forming a Committee with the following objects:—1. To express sympathy with the United States in their determination to liberate Cuba. 2. To protest against any interference by the European Powers with the carrying out of that determination. 3. To watch the course of the dispute between the United States and Spain, and take such action for the above objects as may appear expedient. The subject has been mentioned to many Conservative members, and their approval has been invited; but it is felt, even by those who most strongly sympatise with the State, that any action such as that contemplated would be more mischievous than advantageous—to say nothing of the inevitable ridicule which such schemes, numerous as they are to-day very properly provoke. Moreover, the semi-official character of members makes it incumbent on them not to take action which might lead to the encouragement of breaches of the Foreign Enlistment Act.

IT is being assumed in some quarters that the regulations concerning the supply of coal to belligerents embodied in the circular letter issued by the Home Secretary in connection with her Majesty's proclamation of neutrality constitute a new departure in international comity. This, however, is not the case; for regulations in precisely the same phraseology were set forth in the memorandum published by Lord Clarendon, as Foreign Secretary in Lord Russell's Administration, on June 29, 1866, on the outbreak of hostilities between Prussia and Austria, and they were textually reproduced in the only kindred documents since issued by the British Government "a propos" of European wars—Lord Granville's circular letter of July 19, 1870, dealing with the Franco-Prussian War, and Lord Derby's memorandum of April 30, 1877, relating to the Russo-Turkish War. As a matter of fact, the only material difference between the proclamation and circular letter published yesterday and the 1877 instruments is that the former include a statement of the rules affecting neutrals made under the Treaty of Washington on May 8, 1871, which was not embodied in Lord Derby's declarations. Two points are worthy of note, however—(1) that the present Proclamation of Neutrality makes it clearer than has previously been the case that the Foreign Enlistment Act extends to all the dominions of her Majesty, including the adjacent territorial waters; and (2) that the circular letter to the departments contains the additional provision with regard to the ships of belligerents, that the rule compelling them to leave British waters within twenty-four hours is now specifically applied to those vessels which are at present in port instead of only to those which may come into port after the issue of the document.

THE "Esercito Italiano" in an article on the Italian Jubilee celebrations in relation to the Army has given some interesting particulars of their present situation. In case of war the twelve army corps would form four armies. Each corps has its two divisions with a field, artillery regiment in two sections of four batteries, a regiment of Bersaglieri and one of cavalry, with other units. The war strength of an army would be 119 641 men and 28,851 horses, with 5 056 waggons. The total strength of the forces would be 3,325,766 men, of whom 216,723 would be of the standing Army, 546 771 drawn from the troops on unlimited leave, 478,348 be ongoing to the mobile Militia, and 2,083,924 to the territorial Militia. How far it would be possible to bring all these into the field is, of course, an open question. The number of officers is given as 38 617. Of these, 14,414 are on the active list and 6,294 in reserve, while the mobile militia employs 47 active, and numbers 4,476 reserve officers, and the territorial Militia is credited with 5,496, with 1,084 on assistant service, and a reserve of 6,807.

THE historical section of the Committee of the International Naval and Military Exhibition, which is to be held in Paris in the year 1900, met at the end of last month to decide upon the system to be pursued. General de la Noe presided, and M. Detaille, General de Torcy, and Rear-Admiral Courjolles, with others, were present. It was unanimously agreed, as we learn from the "Revue du Cercle Militaire" that there should be no purpose of presenting objects in an absolutely progressive order, so as to illustrate successive transformations. This, though instructive, by separating the various branches of the Services, would make it impossible to show the historical circumstances of periods. There could be no representation, for example, of the Army at any particular time. Without absolutely defining the system to be pursued, the committee therefore laid down a plain of grouping objects under the following sections: the age of chivalry, the Army before Louvois, the Army after his time, the Revolution, the Napoleonic period, the Army of Africa, the Army under the second Empire, &c. The number of periods might be increased, as the committee remarked, but the ideal arrangement would be to assign a special room or distinct portion of the building to each, grouping the Army and the Navy side by side as far as possible under the several periods. The committee proposes to communicate with collectors, and with public offices we believe, both in France and abroad, in order that the collection brought together may be thoroughly representative of the history of naval and military forces.

THE SUICIDE OF THE HON. MR. H. T. ROSS.

A CORRESPONDENT of the "Madras Mail" writing from Ootacamund on 14th May says:—The week of all others, which is regarded as the principal week of the Season and which has been filled up, day after day, with an incessant round of gaiety, was rudely spoilt and saddened this morning when the news spread that the Hon'ble Mr. H. T. Ross had committed suicide. You are already in possession of the leading facts of the distressing event, and very much more that is hinted and stated here as authoritative, is mere idle rumour. From the evidence at the inquest it is clear that the Hon'ble gentleman's brain had been too severely taxed by his labours on the Tenancy Question which have culminated so brilliantly in the Bill introduced into Council on Friday. It is also certain, on his own statement, that this was not the first time he had been so affected, and it was moreover, well known to the Government that he was not in a fit condition for work. That he received overnight a G. O. intimating that a Medical Board would inquire into his state of health we know, and it is also known that the Board was to include Surgeon-Major General Sibbthorpe, as President, and Surgeon-Major Browning. Still, Mr. Ross's mental troubles were only intermittent; a fact which is clearly proved by the methodical way in which his work, private and public, had been done; the businesslike arrangement of his papers, and the discovery of the manuscript of the speech which he was to have delivered in introducing his Bill, a speech in which, I am assured the points of the Bill are most clearly and regularly defined. Neither can the suicide be said to have been premeditated. Mr. Ross was at the Club overnight, watching the lottery on the races, and for this evening he had invited a number of guests to dine with him in celebration of his birthday. His untimely death has caused universal regret, and is generally recognised that the Presidency has lost, in him, a most valuable and able official. His self-inflicted mortal wound actually as the result of his overzealous performance of duty is a pathetic ending to a useful career. Mr. Ross was a hale and healthy looking man, and might well have lived many years to continue to render assistance to Government Mrs Ross is in England and the India Office has been cabled to to break the sad news to her. Captain Arbuthnot, besides giving the best possible proof of his sympathetic regard for the deceased in life, has burdened himself with the care of his business matters, and the arrangements for the funeral. The news was communicated to His Excellency the Governor, and the Members of Council, by Mr. H. A. Sim, Private Secretary to His Excellency, and came as a great shock to them. A complete report of the inquest follows.

THE INQUEST.

The inquest was held at the deceased's residence, Westward Ho, at 1 o'clock, Mr. D. W. G. Cowie, the Acting Collector of the Nilgiris, presiding. Major Romilly was the Foreman of the Jury.

The first witness called was the deceased's "boy," who said he prepared his master's tea as usual at 6-30 in the morning, and ordered his horse. Then he went to the bedroom door and knocked, but, receiving no answer, entered the room. He found his master lying down on the bed, with his mouth open, and a little red mark on his chest. Witness went up to him, and called "Sir, Sir," at the same time touching him, and when he again got no answer he got frightened and went for the writer. He saw the deceased's revolver lying by him on the bed. The writer came, and at once saw that Mr. Ross was dead. They fetched a nurse from the hotel close by. Witness had been with Mr. Ross more than 15 years. His master got a letter the previous night, at 7-30 p.m., from the Government Office. The revolver belonged to his master, and also the cartridges.

By Dr. Browning:—He took some cartridges out of the room overnight by direction of a lady at the neighbouring hotel. He removed a box of cartridges, and a sharp knife, razors, and all sharp things. He thought the deceased must have taken the cartridges in the revolver before the box was removed. It was 9 o'clock when he took the things away, and his master was in the dining room at the time.

Dr. Browning was the second witness, and said that at Captain Arbuthnot's suggestion the previous night, he went to Messrs. Smith and Sons, the Chemists, and ordered Mr. Ross two doses of sleeping draught. Captain Arbuthnot said Mr. Ross had written to him that afternoon. Witness wrote to Mr. Ross, when sending the medicine, saying that he would call and see him in the morning. When he got home Mr. Ross's letter to him was there, stating that he had been suffering from restlessness and a pain in his head, and asking witness to see him the following morning. In the morning he received a note from Captain Arbuthnot to say that Mr. Ross had shot himself, and witness went to Westward Ho at once. In the deceased's sitting room his papers were in order. There were some unopened letters on the table, and a Government Order, which had been opened but had been closed up again. This was an Order convening a Medical Board to sit upon the deceased. There were other general letters on the table. Nothing was disarranged in the bedroom. The body was covered by a sheet, done, he believed, by Captain Arbuthnot. The abdomen was warm. Over the apex of the heart there was the mark of the entrance of a bullet. There was not much discolouration, and little blood. He found a wound to exist an inch and a half from the spine, corresponding to the point of entrance—that was to say, on the same level. There was also a hole in the bed corresponding with this latter opening, and looking under the bed the tape of the bed was seen to project downwards. He found no bullet on the floor, so lifted up the mattress, and found a bullet adhering to the cotton wool, and hidden in the binding of the under surface of the mattress. From the state of placidity of the body, and the warmth of the abdomen, he considered it probable that death had occurred about half past four or five that morning. He was of opinion that the wound was self-inflicted.

Captain Arbuthnot, the third and last witness, said Mr. Ross had appeared to be in

A VERY UNSETTLED STATE OF MIND

for the last two or three weeks, apparently from anxiety about the Bill which he had to introduce in Council. He had continually said that he would not be able to do so, and when, some days back, deceased told witness that the Government of India had refused to sanction any extra expenditure on account of his appointment, he seemed to witness to be childishly pleased that he might be able to get out of appearing before the Council. On Friday, at breakfast, witness asked Mr. Ross, "When are you going to the Council?" and he replied in a petulent manner "I am not going at all; I have just written to Grose my ultimatum." Witness asked him if he realised the situation, and he said Government would be quite prepared for his action, and someone else would introduce the Bill. Witness then ordered his trap, with the intention of trying to catch Mr. Crole at Mr. Stuart's house, before he left for the Council. Witness met Mr Crole on the road, driving, and stopped his carriage, apologising for troubling him, and gave him particulars as to Mr. Ross's state. He told Mr. Crole that Mr. Ross had said to him that even if he went to the Council he would not be able to remember a single point in his Bill, which he had been working for two years. After breakfast, in the course of conversation with Mr. Ross, the deceased said that he was alarmed at the failure of his brain and was becoming in the same state as he was in two years ago. His only chance was to get away. On Friday night witness dined out and returned about 11-15. There was a light in Mr. Napier's sitting room, adjoining Mr. Ross's office room, and a dim light in the latter's bedroom. Witness crossed in front of the windows twice to see if he could hear anyone talking. All seemed quiet, so he did not attempt to see Mr. Ross, which had been his intention if he found him up. As witness was dressing that (Saturday) morning servants, at 7 o'clock, he was summoned by Mrs. Napier's in an excited way, saying there was something the matter with Mr. Ross. Witness put on a coat hurriedly and met Mrs. Burnet and Mrs. Napier outside. They told him that Mr. Ross had shot himself. Mrs. Burnet told him that Mr. Ross was dead; he undoubtedly was dead, so witness sat down and wrote letters to Dr. Browning and Mr. David. He assured himself that Mr. Ross was dead before sending the letters. His body was warm all over. After Mr. David's arrival he assisted in straightening the body, and they both examined the revolver, which lay by his left hand. They found five chambers loaded, and one empty. The barrel of the revolver was foul. He last saw deceased alive at 4-30 the previous afternoon, but only through the window, and asked him if he was going out for his ride, to which Mr. Ross replied that he was.

By Dr. Browning.—When deceased said he was rapidly getting back into the same state as two years ago he mentioned the Pittapore Case, and said he presumed the reason of his present mental state was that he had been working continually at the same subject for a prolonged period, when he sat there four or five hours every day for six months.

NOBODY HEARD THE REPORT OF THE REVOLVER.

The deceased had had the intention of giving his birthday dinner party that (Saturday) night. Witness did not think there was anything to bother him beyond the Bill, but he took a gloomy view of things generally, and suffered constantly from fits of depression. Deceased old him he had applied for leave, and witness had since found out that he had applied by telegram for a passage Home on the 4th June. Witness had wired to the Shipping Agents countermanding the booking. During Friday they had some conversation about his horses and the private property he wanted to get rid of, and Mr. Ross told him all about the insurances on his life, showing him the list produced. Deceased said he could not afford to pay all these premiums, and suggested that the purchase of a certain one would be a good speculation for witness or anybody else. Witness advised him not to trouble himself about these matters, but merely to get rid of his horses, carriages, etc.

The Coroner and the Jury having viewed the body a verdict was at once returned that the deceased committed suicide during a state of temporary insanity, and the Jury added an expression of opinion that his brain was unhinged owing to excessive work.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

THE APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY.

THE adjourned weekly meeting of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation was held yesterday afternoon, Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtoola presiding. There were also present: Messrs. T. D. Cuffe, G. W. Roughton, K. N. Kabraji, Mulji Bhawanidas Barbhya, R. H. Vincent, Drs. A. G. Viegas, Cawasji Hormusji, N. N. Katrak, Ismail Jan Mahomed, and K. N. Bahadurji.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING MUNICIPAL SECRETARY.

The Committee considered the following report of the sub-committee appointed by the Standing Committee to invite applications for the appointment of Acting Municipal Secretary and report on the applications received.

The sub-committee appointed by the Standing Committee on the 13th April beg to report that having fully examined the testimonials of the 83 candidates for the office of Acting Municipal Secretary and carefully considered the same have decided to submit for selection by the Standing Committee, three names in the following order:—

Age 30.—1. Mr. F. H. Brown, "Bombay Gazette."

Age 45.—2. Mr. M. N. Wadia, B.A., F.R.U., Assistant Secretary to Government.

Age about 30.—3. Mr. L. J. Clarke, B.A. (Oxon.) Assistant to the Inspector-General of Jails, Bengal.

IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA,
G. W. ROUGHTON.
M. B. BARBHAYA.

In my opinion the order should be—

1. Mr. Clarke,
2. Mr. Wadia,
3. Mr. Brown.

K. N. BAHADURJI.

Mr. Mulji Barbhaya, in proposing the appointment of Mr. Brown, said that the sub-committee had before them 83 applications, three other applications having been received after 5 o'clock on the last day they were receivable, and the sub-committee having considered all the applications, had submitted three names as being the most eligible out of the 83 candidates for the post of the Secretary of the Standing Committee and the Corporation. There was a little difference of opinion among the members of the sub-committee as to the order in which the names should be submitted, and it was eventually resolved by three votes to one to place first the name of Mr. F. H. Brown, of the "Bombay Gazette," Mr. M. N. Wadia, and Mr. L. J. Clarke being placed second and third on the list. He (Mr. Mulji) proposed that Mr. Brown be appointed to the post of the Secretary during the absence on leave of Mr. Barrow. His reasons for submitting the name of Mr. Brown were these. He had been in the "Bombay Gazette" for about four years and a-half and in that capacity had had great experience. It appeared from Mr. Brown's testimonials that he was possessed of great local knowledge and frequently wrote on matters commercial, financial, civic and political. Mr. Mulji then read some of the certificates and testimonials given to Mr. Brown by his late employers in England and from the Hon'ble Mr. Naoroji, Sir George Cotton, Mr. Sleigh and other prominent citizens and proceeded to remark that he was an excellent short-hand reporter. The testimonials showed that he could quickly grasp the subject with which he had to deal, and that he was altogether a very able journalist. Mr. Barrow, who had proved such an able Secretary was also connected with one of the morning papers when he joined the Municipality, and his knowledge and experience as a journalist stood him in good stead in his office as Secretary to the Corporation. Mr. Brown, if appointed, would make as good and able a Secretary as Mr. Barrow. He had the advantage of being young man, being only 30 years of age, and the Municipality would under the circumstances, be able to secure his services for no less a period than 25 years, before he reached the age limit. Mr. Barrow had the whole of the history of the Municipality at his fingers' ends, and he had no doubt that Mr. Brown, should he succeed him, would have the same mastery of facts during his term of office and would be in a position to hand down the history of the Corporation to his successor in office in the same way as Mr. Barrow would do. Being a short-hand writer he would be able to take notes of the proceedings of the Standing

recommendations made by them in favour of Mr. Wadia were of a more eulogistic and complimentary character than those given to Mr. Brown. Mr. Wadia was recommended by no less an authority than Sir Charles Ollivant, who was at one time the Municipal Commissioner of Bombay, and by the Hon'ble Mr. Nugent, and a host of other high officials, who had spoken of Mr. Wadia in very high terms. He (Mr. Kabraji) was in a position to flatly contradict Mr. Roughton as regarded Mr. Wadia's health. He had known Mr. Wadia for a number of years, and he was in a position to state that he was in enjoyment of vigour and strength of mind and body as he was daily to be seen taking the healthy exercise of cycling in all parts of the town. There could be no two opinions about his intellectual attainments and his academical qualifications and his high social position and sweet temper, which considerably strengthened his claims.

Dr. Cowasji said that he knew Mr. Wadia when he was a child, and he was in a position to say that he was in every way qualified for the post. He was surprised to hear from Mr. Roughton that Mr. Wadia was more than 45 years of age. When he (Dr. Cowasji) was in the height of his professional practice, he knew Mr. Wadia as a child. Though he was now 60 years of age, he looked as if he was 70.

Mr. Roughton: I took you to be only 24 years old. (Laughter).

Dr. Cowasji, continuing, said that Mr. Wadia was hale and hearty and strong and vigorous and was free from any disease. If Mr. Wadia was appointed to the post he was sure to give them every satisfaction in his new appointment.

Dr. Bahadurji said that the best proof of Mr. Wadia being in good health was that he had not taken sick leave of late. Such remarks as fell from Mr. Roughton, were, to say the least, uncalled for, and he (Dr. Bahadurji) protested against them.

Mr. Roughton said that the Committee should engage the services of a man who would be able to discharge the duties of his office for a number of years like Mr. Barrow, and not one who was more or less in the position of retiring from Government service. If they appointed Mr. Brown they would have his services for twenty or thirty years.

Dr. Cowasji said that in one of the certificates of Mr. Wadia it was stated that he could write English better than an average Englishman.

Mr. Roughton: This out-herods Herod.

Dr. Bahadurji expressed himself pleased that Mr. Roughton had now shifted his ground, and had dropped the question of health.

Dr. Ismail Jan Mahomed said that he had carefully gone through the certificates of Mr. Brown and Mr. Wadia, and he was able to say that whereas Mr. Brown's testimonials were obtained for the occasion, Mr. Wadia received them from time to time during his official career. Mr. Wadia's testimonials were undoubtedly superior. He came to the meeting with an open mind. After a careful consideration of the pros and cons he was in a position to say that Mr. Wadia had superior claims to those of Mr. Brown.

Mr. Kabraji's amendment for Mr. Wadia's appointment was then put to the vote and carried by 6 votes against 4, the members voting in its favour being the four Parsee members, Dr. Viegas, and Dr. Jan Mahomed. The same amendment when carried as a substantive motion by 6 votes against 3.

The Committee then proceeded to transact the business on the agenda paper, which was of a routine character.

THE RETIRING SECRETARY.

The Chairman said that as it was the last time Mr Barrow, their Secretary, would be with them, he thought that it was the duty of the Committee to place on record their sense of appreciation of the long and valuable services rendered by Mr. Barrow to the Municipality, especially to the Standing Committee. During the short time that he was in the chair he found that Mr. Barrow, besides being an able officer, was indispensable to the president of the Corporation and chairman of the Standing Committe, who received the benefit of his long experience and advice.

Mr. Vincent said that it was a pity that the Corporation were to loose the services of Mr. Barrow, who had the whole history of the Municipality at his fingers' ends. Mr. Barrow had devoted the best years of his life in writing the history of the Municipality ever since its existence, and the Corporation would do well to adequately reward his services by purchasing the history over which he had laboured so hard and so long.

Dr. Katrak observed that Mr. Barrow always lent a helping hand to new members of the Corporation, and was altogether a most useful and conscientious officer they ever had.

Mr. Kabraji remarked that it was no use giving empty praises to such a valuable officer as Mr. Barrow. Something substantial ought to be given to mark their sense of the good and enduring services rendered by him.

It was then proposed by Mr. Vincent, and seconded by Dr. Bahadurji, and carried by acclamation, "That the Standing Committee puts on record its sense of appreciation of Mr. Barrow's long and excellent services to the Municipality of Bombay, and is strongly of opinion that the long experience and ripe knowledge of Mr. Barrow as regards the rise and growth of this Municipality should be utilized by purchasing from him the compendium he has compiled on matters municipal, and that the Corporation be recommended to vote a sum of at least Rs. 15,000 for the same."

Mr. Barrow, in acknowledging the compliment paid to him, expressed his sincere acknowledgments of the expression of the Standing Committee's recognition of his services, and said that he trusted that the Municipal Commissioner, the Corporation, and the Standing Committee would, notwithstanding the difficultiess the Municipality has to contend with especially in regard to the visitation of plague,, be able to conduct the duties of their respective offices during the present year with as much success and benefit to the city as it had been the case in the past. He added that he would always feel the deepest interest in the fortunes of the city in which the best part of his life had been passed, and trusted that he would hear when he went home that the long continued prosperity of Bombay would speedily return, and that the city might not have passed through such disasters as the one which had so seriously affected its interests during the past two years.

The Committee then adjourned.

SIR SALTER PYNE AND THE AMIR.

In the course of an interview with a representative of Reuter's Agency, Sir Salter Pyne, who has arrived in London after two years' stay in Kabul, made the following statement with regard to the Amir's attitude during the Frontier war:—I am very happy that my prophecies of past years with regard to the Amir's attitude have proved to be true, and I am glad to have had the opportunity of seeing for myself how true an ally to Great Britain his Highness has proved himself to be. When the Afridi deputation came to solicit the Amir's assistance, Abdul Rahman kept them at Kabul until after the war was over. Nothing is further from the truth than the suggestion that his Highness in any way approved of the Afridis action. He did all he could to put the movement down, but the suggestion that he could have sent troops against them was not a practical one. Concerning any part Ghulam Haider Khan, the late Commander-in-Chief, may be supposed to have taken. I will say nothing. The Amir could not, even if he were called upon to do so, send troops against the rebel tribesmen as none of them were under Afghan rule or lived in Afghan territory. The boundaries of Afghanistan do not embrace the Afridis or any of the revolted tribesmen. As a fact, both the Amir and Afghanistan lost heavily by the Frontier troubles. They occasioned a loss to the Amir of over 70 lakhs of rupees, and the results to the country were serious. The bazaars were almost deserted, and there was no market for Afghan products—such as grapes and other kinds of fruit—owing to the blocking of the roads. Some of the workshops had to be closed, as the usual supplies of iron and fuel were not forthcoming. There was, too, much privation in Kabul. The commonest black tea rose from Rs. 1 1-2 to Rs. 12 per lb., sugar was Rs. 2 per lb., and Manchester goods realised enormous prices. The whole trade of Afghanistan was, in fact, paralysed, the fruit harvest was practically lost, and great distress was occasioned. The Amir was much annoyed at the closing of the Khyber Pass and at the caravan routes being stopped by events which he considers might have been averted.

THE Moscow correspondent of the *Standard* writes:—The war between the United States and Spain has caused quite a flutter in the Russian Press. It would not be surprising if in attempting to avert the worst effects of the outbreak of hostilities, England and Russia, the two Great Powers nearest geographically, and the most interested in the peaceful progress of the United States were to be brought in much more friendly relations than they ever were before. This is certainly the desire of a considerable party in Russia, but it has probably been recently quickened by whispers of an English undersanding with Japan, or by the still more threatening suggestion of na alliance between England and the United States. Already voices are being raised against Russia's programme and policy in the Far East, which necessitates the creation of a large fleet to help to balance that of England. An understanding with the British Government would give Russia all the advantages of English capital and enterprise in developing her vast natural resources, while England's hold on the markets of the world outside Russia would be greatly strengthened by a rapprochement directed against German encroachment. Even the Anglophobe Press only adds that an understanding with England must be a stable one, which it considers could only be the case so long as England kept alive to the fact of the power of Russia on the Indian frontier on the consequent value of solidarity with her. I do not remember the time when the Russian Press was so generally interested in the question of an Anglo-Russian rapprochement as the present.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.		No. of Attacks.	No. of Deaths from Bubonic Plague.	Total Deaths from all Causes.
A	Upper Colaba	0	0	2
	Mid. & Lower Colaba	0	0	
	Fort, Southern	0	0	
	Fort, Northern	0	1	
	Esplanade	0	1	
B	Mandvie	0	1	14
	Chuckla	1	1	
	Umarkhady	1	0	
	Dongri	1	0	
C	Market	0	0	16
	Dhobi Talao	2	1	
	Fanaswady	0	1	
	Bhuleshwar	0	1	
	Khara Talao	0	0	
	Kumbarwada	1	0	
D	Khetwady	2	2	8
	Girgaum	1	0	
	Chowpatty	1	0	
	Walkeshwar	0	1	
	Mahaluxmi	0	1	
E	Mazagon	1	0	30
	Tarwady	0	2	
	Second Nagpada	0	0	
	Kamatipura	0	0	
	Tardeo	0	0	
	Byculla	3	5	
	First Nagpada	0	0	
F	Parel	0	1	7
	Sewree	0	0	
	Sion	0	1	
G	Mahim	0	1	4
	Worlee	0	0	
	Water Division	0	0	0
	N.-E. & Unknown	6	0	
	HOSPITALS.			
	Arthur Road		1	16
	Modykhana		1	
	Maratha		5	
	Morland's Rd S Camp	1	0	
	Total	21	24	97
	Total plague deaths to date	29,874	25,860	
	Total same date last year	8	8	77

CHOLERA.

Attack	1
Death	0

The services of Drs. Gibson and Blackmore have been transferred from the Plague Committee to the Surgeon-General with the Government of Bombay. There are now only three doctors remaining under the Plague Committee, and they are Drs. Haydon, Thomas, and Dalal.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PASSENGERS.

The medical inspection of passengers at Kalyan and Bandora stations having been thought sufficient, it is now under consideration to cease the inspection carried on at the Victoria Terminus, Grant Road, and Sion stations. The medical inspection at Kalyan has already been taken charge of by the Government, and the question whether the inspection at Bandora should also be placed in the hands of Government is under consideration.

THE CHIEF OF SANGLI AND THE PLAGUE.

A local correspondent writes:—We read in history that Shivaji sacrificed his own interest for the good of his subjects, and many other stories of heroes who have shed their blood at the shrines of human liberty. But such instances being of rare occurrence in these days of ours, some times appear impossible to our incredulous mind and while reading them, we feel as if we were in the region of romance. But the sympathetic conduct of the Chief of Sangli during the days of the plague there, clearly proves that these stories are not fictitious but are the stubborn facts of this world. From this it will not be unsafe to conclude that there are yet Rajas amongst us who can be fairly ranked amongst the heroes of the past times.

When the plague commenced at Sangli, our Chief instead of leaving the place, to pass his summer in a cool place like Mahableshwar, most courageously remained at Sangli during the horrors of the plague to attend to the self-imposed duty for the public good. Very few parallels of this nature will be found in history. The sympathy and the zeal shown by the Chief in checking the growth of the plague cannot be adequately described. Fortunately for the Sanglikarsthey have got like their Chief, a benevolent and kind-hearted Karbari, whose services during the days of the plague are unique in their nature. He carried out every measure for stamping out the plague, paying due regard to the wishes and convenience of the people, and hence he has made himself very popular at Sangli His tactfulway of managing things in times of difficulty is noteworthy and it will not be unpossible to say that he is the proper man to be karbari to a chief like ours. The laws of segregation and quarantine were not so strictly observed, still the state officials have been able to stamp out the plague, and this is a fact from which people in other parts should take a lesson.

AN EX-TELEGRAPH MASTER SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS

At the close of the prosecution in the Telegraph Office defalcation case, Colombo, Hunter, the accused, made a statement practically denying the charge. He said that since November last, he was in failing health; his legs and hands being paralysed, and he was in hospital for some time. During that time he did not know what took place in the office. He was greatly depressed since the death of his wife. There were some messages to be stamped, and he had intended stamping them before sending them to the check office. He was told on the 25th of February, he was out of his mind. When he left the office on the 21st of March, he left cash on the table. He was found unconscious on his wife's grave at the General Cemetery, Borella. He went to the office on the 28th. He was then told that some money was missing. He fully intended stamping the messages produced that day. He was told that there were these messages to be stamped. He was not told that he had to give over charge of his office to another postmaster. Had he been informed, he would have stamped the daily messages, as the stamps were there. That was all he had to state.

In giving judgment, the Magistrate said: The prosecution has proved and accused admits it that accused had in his hands two sums of Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 400 for the purpose of supplying stamps for telegrams for the general public including reply prepaid messages. It has also proved to my mind, though accused denied it, that he had a further sum of Rs. 100 for the purpose of supplying stamps to be affixed to office copies of press-bearing telegrams, which were received at Colombo, having been dispatched unpaid from outstations. The course of business is shewn to be that accused from the money in his hands made daily remittances of cash and cheques to the account of the Postmaster-General, and received in exchange from the Treasury stamps to the value of his remittances: so that he always held in stamps or cash, or all three, the full value of the advances made to him, which these advances consisted of Rs. 3,400 as the prosecution alleges, or Rs. 3,410 as accused states. It is proved that there was a rule that accused should have stamped the office copies of press-bearing telegrams as soon as they were received by him. These stamps it was certainly his duty to have affixed at once to the office copies of the press-bearing telegrams' even if he had not done so, as was his duty at the time they were received. It is also proved that stamps have never been affixed to the office copies, which were all produced in evidence and that on accused's suspension from duty on the 21st March, instead of therebeing Rs. 3,400 in his hands in cash, stamps, &c, there was less than Rs. 2,000. These facts taken together build up a strong case for the prosecution, and conclusively prove accused's guilt, unless he is able to account for what he did with those stamps, which he received for a specific purpose. A suggestion, it is nothing more, for there is no evidence in support of it or that accused's mind was deranged. Now he does not set up insanity as his defence at all, and in the certificate sent to Mr. Vane the illnesses mentioned were purely physical ones, and not a word is said of anything mental. And accused in Court when making his statement did not appear to me to show the slightest signs of any mental disorder. His whole conduct, as shown by the evidence, is not that of an honest man, but of one who was aware of having done wrong, and was attempting to hide what he had done. I find accused guilty of the charges of criminal breaches of trust under Section 392 of the Penal Code as laid against him in the second, fourth, and sixth of the counts in the indictment. The first, third, and fifth counts are as the prosecuting counsel said, merely alternative counts respectively to the second, fourth, and six heads. This case appears to me very bad one, for accused was a man receiving a handsome salary, and no mere underpaid clerk. Accused is sentenced to two year's rigorous imprisonment.

THE PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR FRIDAY.

Saturday's death-rate from all causes in the various wards of the city was forty. The highest mortality was in Ward No. 8; there were two plague cases and one death. The total seizures up to Friday were 53, and the deaths 43.

PLAGUE OBSERVATION CAMPS.

The following statement, sent by Dr. H. J. Dyson, Sanitary Commissioner to the Government of Beng l, shows the total number of persons examined and detained in the plague observation camps at Chakrsdharpore, Chowsa, Danukdea, Mairwa, and Khurla during the week ending 1st May:—Number of persons examined during the week, 10,415; total number of persons examined since the plague observation camps were opened, 2,54,180; number of suspects detained during the week, 294; total number of suspects detained since the camps was opened, 6,767; total number of detained in camp during the week, 501; number of death during the week, none; number of death since the camp was opened, six, but none due to plague.

VISITS BY THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor Sir John Woodburn has within the past week, visited several river centres in Calcutta. The launch in which he travelled stopped at several ghats where large crowds met His Honor, who assured them that they had no reason to fear, and the impression left on the Lieutenant-Governor was that the people are docile and not at all inclined to defy authority. For the past two or three days Sir John Woodburn has been suffering from an attack of fever, and has not been out; but he proposes making a tour through the city, and there can be no manner of doubt that his appearance among the people, and whatever he may say to them, will end the feverish unrest which for the past fortnight has prevailed in the city.

APPREHENDED UNREST.

Although quite prevails in all quarters of the town there is still a genral feeling of unrest. Coolies, carters, and workmen, are it is true, returning to their work, but in most cases extra wages are being demanded, and in public offices, this is making things very inconvenient, while in private families house servants are causing a good deal of trouble and inconvenience.

For some days past it has been stated that there would be some manifestation of rowdyism on Saturday. This was probably due to the fact that, as the mill-hands, like the rest, have a half-holiday, they would "march down" on the city. A reporter of this paper, however, traversed what may be described as the complete round of the city in a tramcar, and saw no crowds anywhere.

INOCULATIONS.

Fully thirty inoculations were performed by Dr. Cook on Saturday. All were willing applicants, and among the number were several ladies. Among those inoculated on Saturday were Dr. E. C. Pettifer, Messrs. Horace Wilson, E. Walker, F. C. Eagles, Deputy Controller of Post Offices, Mr. Currundas Madhab Dass, a Marwaree gentleman evidently from his name, Mr. Hussunbhoy Visram, and Dr. Harimohan Sen and family.

THE LATEST GANARD.

The latest bazaar rumour is that the Government of India have sent instructions to the Local Government to withdraw all plague regulations, in consequence of which a large number of people who had purchased tickets at the Howrah railway station sold them to others at a liberal discount, having made up their minds to remain in their houses and not to leave Calcutta. The military police have been located in a convenient quarter so as to be available at any time.

THE SITUATION IN HOWRAH.

Apparently the plague has not crossed the river. At any rate, up to date, no case of illness or death has been ascertained in it in Howrah. There, however, on the alert and prompt measures are being taken to improve the sanitation of the town. On Friday evening the leading residents met at the Town Hall in response to an invitation from the District Magistrate, who explained the policy which the Local Government had declared in regard to combating the plague, and asked the residents for their cordial co-operation with the authorities in the measures which they proposed to adopt in Howrah. It was impossible to make house-to-house visitation, but this would only be conducted by respectable and respected members of their own communities, who would be invited to form themselves into Visita ca Committees. The question of a segregation hospital and camp for the poorer classes was discussed, but nothing definite was arrived at. Segregation would only be enforced when it was impossible to accommodate a plague-stricken patient in a separate apartment in his or her own house. The Magistrate expressed the hope that when they next met, probably on Tuesday, he would be able to lay some definite schemes before them. In the interval he trusted that those who had the influence to do so would explain the facts of the Government policy as widely as possible among the more ignorant of the people, and thereby stifle the possibility of any senseless panic.

ANOTHER EUROPEAN AT HOWRAH ASSAULTED.

The other evening while Chief Petty Officer Maxwell, of the Calcutta Naval Volunteers, was riding home on a bycycle (he is employed on the Port Commission, and lives in Howrah), he came on a crowd of Mahomedans beating a native. He jumped off his bike, and went to the assistance of the man. The moment he was saw a European they "went" for Mr Maxwell, who was roughly handled, until a posse of police came to his assistance. Some arrests were made, and the case comes on on Tuesday.

EXCITING A PANIC.

The Howrah police on Saturday arrested a Mahomedan who was running about among the coolies of the jute-bales godowns, and at once had been inoculated. As the man showed a puncture on his left arm and pretended to be in great pain the coolies showed signs of excitement, which, but for the prompt arrest and exposure of the inciter, might have resulted in turbulence. Evidence sufficient for a remand was recorded against the accused on Saturday. —*Statesman.*

THE MURDER OF A EUROPEAN AT HOWRAH.

THE case against the three coolies Lal Pharikhan, Shantoo, and Bhugwan, accused of causing the death of Joseph Selvoid on the 4th Instant, was resumed on Saturday before the Deputy Magistrate of Howrah.

Mr. Leonard Lee, a miller in the Bengal Flour Mills, said he remembered that on the 4th instant, about 3 p. m., a European called upon him at the Mills and asked for employment. Witness told him that there was no vacancy. The visitor could speak only a very little English. He remained at the mills for about a quarter of an hour. When he was leaving witness wrote out the address of the Austrian Consul. The visitor told witness that he was an Austrian. The witness next described the clothes the visitor wore on the occasion, the description tallying with the clothes taken off the body of the murdered man, and produced in Court. Witness was shown the deceased's photograph, and said that it resembled the person who had called upon him on the 4th. He had not since seen the visitor. The latter did not tell him where he was going when he left the Mills.

A sweeper who dragged the body out of the river, a constable who accompanied the body to the dead house, and a Sub-Inspector who drew up a rough plan of the locality where the murder was committed, were examined, and the further hearing was adjourned till one o'clock to-morrow.

It is reported that the action of the serang of the launch "Black Diamond," who refused to help the deceased, although the launch was near to the drowning man, will not go unnoticed. The "Black Diamond" is the property of the Bengal Coal Company. There may be some difficulty in smoothing the serang through the Criminal Courts, but a representation is being forwarded by the Howrah Police to the Port Office, with a view to ascertain whether the serang's certificate cannot be dealt with departmentally. Legal advice has also been taken as to the possibility of successful action under the Marine Act.

Five more coolies have been arrested by the Howrah Police as being implicated in the murder of Joseph Selvoid. They will be put up for trial as soon as the evidence against them is complete. It is possible that at to-morrow's trial of the three accused who stand charged with causing the death of Selvoid, something definite as to the previous history of the deceased will be forthcoming. The deceased's portmanteau will be opened in Court under the orders of the Magistrate trying the case, in the hope that the address of some relative or friend may be discovered, to whom the news of Selvoid's death will be communicated.—"Statesman."

WE learn from the "Popolo Romano" that the Minister of War has decided to open courses of instruction, of fifteen days' duration, for the officers of the territorial Militia belonging to the infantry branch. Attendance will be voluntary, and officers who make application will be attached to various regiments, and be put under instruction for four hours daily. They will be classed in two categories according to the degree of advantage they derive from the training, and those who gain the better certificate will enjoy certain privileges in regard to promotion.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it will positively restore in every case Gray or White hair, to its Original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemists for "The Mexican Hair Renewer, sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere, at 3s. 6d. per bottle.—Wholesale Depot: 53., Farringdon Road, London.

GOA NEWS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GOA, MAY 12.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor-General, accompanied by his staff, left Pangim on the 1st instant and landed at Durbati, where he was received by the Administrator of Ponda and the Committee in aid of sufferers by the inundation. The road leading to Ponda was decorated with triumphal arches. On his way his Excellency visited the temples of Queula Bandowa, and the palace of the King of Sundem. After lunch his Exellency was visited by the principal authorities of the Province. Mr. Pouciano de Souza gave an account of the subscription collected in aid of sufferers by the inundation, on the 15 h June last. The amount of Rs. 2,500 was collected, out of which a chawl of eight houses was built and given to those who were rendered houseless by the inundation, and the balance of Rs. 720 was distributed among 50 persons who had suffered. Mr. P. de Souza thanked his Excellency for attending the inauguration of the quarters, and as a son of the country could not refrain from mentioning the fact of the losses and tranquality given to the people. Mr. Costa Pereira, the president of the Committee, narrated the disaster which rendered so many persons homeless, and whatever he did was simply his duty as Administrator and President of the Municipality. The proposal by Mr. P. de Souza to to name the chawl after Mr. Costa Pereira was carried with acclamation. The King of Sundem had subscribed Rs. 300 and the Patriarch Archbishop Rs. 50. His Excellency the Governor-General replied saying that the Committee had done much to relieve the poor sufferers. They furnished dwelling houses to those who had lost them, besides giving relief to many who had lost by the disaster what little they possessed. At 5 p.m., his Excellency visited the church, and the bridge of Conirapan. On the morning of the next day the bridge of Velinga and the temple of Mordol and in the evening all the public establishments in the place were also visited. At 4 p.m., his Excellency proceeded to Borim. A Hindu read an address in Marathi which, being interpreted to his Excellency, he replied that he made no distinction between Christians, Hindus, or Mahomedans, provided they were the loyal subjects of his Majesty the King. His Excellency embarked on board the Sasary, and proceeded to Quepem, where two pavilions were erected and also triumphal arches throughout the road. His Excellency arrived at Sanvordem, where the civil and military authorities received him at the bunder and he was conveyed to the church, where a "Te Deum" was sung, accompanied by two bands of music. After the church ceremony his Excellency entered a magnificent pavilion where Dr. Noguera read a touching address in which the important acts of his Excellency's administration at Baira were dwelt upon. Mr. Filouind Figueredo, the Adminis rator of the Province, gave a sumptuous dinner, to his Excellency and his staff. In proposing the toast of his Excellency Mr. Figueredo spoke in high terms of his Excellency's administration, and the general sympathies and respect he has gained by his wise measures, which have given peace to the country. His Excellency replied that his wishes and endeavours were directed towards the progress of the country, and with this view he was making a tour that he may see and know the things at first-hand. Beira, which was purely a sandy country has been converted into a prosperous city, he expected the same would be do the same thing here, owing to the difference that at Beira he had to organise the society from its birth, giving to it the shape best suited for the occasion, while here it was necessary to reform a society with its interests and laws and the rights already acquired. It was more difficult to reform than to organise a society on a new basis. Besides there were serious financial difficulties, differenses in political parties, and many other things. The people of Goa were essentially an agricultural race, and this system was found more prosperous and deeply rooted, but this could not satisfy all their wants, and it was therefore necessary that their attention should be directed towards industry and commercial pursuits, that each one might work for their own interests. That in Beira it was necessary to think of one thing and means were not lacking, but here the want was conspicuous. On the 3rd instant, his Excellency attended the bill of Chanderiates, returning to 10 o'clock. All the public functionaries and principal citizens had gone to give his Excellency a welcome. After breakfast he visited the public offices, the palace of the Dean, and the Church, and on the morning of the 4th instant proceeded to Canacona, going on foot the great part of the province of Bailey. His Excellency took note of the want of a bridge over the river which connects the road from Sanvordem to Quepim, and of the copious water-power which may be made serviceable for agricultural purposes.—The new tariff on the S. M. Railway line will come into force from September next.—His Grace the Patriarch Archbishop has issued a pastoral enjoining on the parish priests under his jurisdiction to illuminate the façades of the churches and parochial residences on the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th instant in commemoration of the centenary. The Governor-General refused to sanction Rs. 500 more for the construction of the ship St. Gabriel, which was being constructed by the School of Arts to be forwarded to the centenary exhibition.—It is proposed to open a new line of steam launches between Dandim and Cortalim to accelerate the postal service during the approaching rainy season.—The Centenary Committee in Pangim has been negociating with the Governor of the steam launches to make concessions in the tickets to those persons who may be coming to Pangim during the celebration of the centenary.—A proposal by the Deputy Imiroz Ribeiro has been submitted to the Parliament for converting the temple of Jeronymos at Belem into a National Pantheon, wherein the ashes of all great men are to be removed specially those of Vasco da Gama from Goa. The late Chief Justice, Mr Pinto Falcao, has been appointed Vice-President of the House of Deputies in Lisbon.—Milk sellers at Pangim have been fined for supplying milk adulterated with water.—There is a proposal to raise the salaries of the professors of first and second degree from Rs. 19 and 25 to Rs. 30 and 40. Of all the public servants these teachers of the Primary Schools are badly paid.—A general review of all the troops stationed at Pangim was held by the Governor-General.

INDIAN CROP PROSPECTS.

MADRAS GINGELLY.

THE report on the Late sown Gingelly of 1897—98 shows the Forecast of Outturn is as follows:—The total area sown with gingelly from 1 t October to 31st March last in the Government villages of this Presidency is 291,000 acres, or 29·1 and 24·9 per centmores than the averages of the preceding five and ten years, respectively, and 7·3 per cent. more than he at a sown in the corresponding period of the previous year. As compared with the averages mentioned above, the increase is marked in Ganjam, Godaveri, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Trichnopoly, Tanjore and Madura and the decrease is heavy only in North Arcot. Compared with the previous year, there is a considerable increase in Ganjam, Vizagapatam, South Arcot, Tanjore and Coimbatore, while there is a great falling off in Madura and Tinnevelly. The increase is generally attributed to more favourable character of the season and in some places to large areas on which wet crops and ground nuts failed having been subsequently sown with gingelly. The increase in Ganjam is chiefly due to the great demand for this crop by the Calingapatam merchants. The decrease is generally ascribed to deficient rainfall in the North-East monsoon in the southern districts.

The condition of the crop varies from poor to fair. The crop is reported to be affected by disease and damaged by locusts in places; and the outturn for the whole Presidency is, in consequence, estimated at only 45—the normal being represented by 100.

THE report of the Calcutta Tramways Company for 1897, writes *Capital*, and the proceedings of the annual meeting held on the 19th ultimo, show that the concern is not in that moribund condition which some people suppose. The receipts for last year were £74,462 and notwithstanding the high price of grain the net revenue was £7,262, so that there is now at credit of profit and loss some £14,435 with reserve funds of £3,920. The debentures of £50,000 which fell due on 31st December have been redeemed by a new issue of £100,000, of which apparently only £50,000 have so far been required; and pending negotiations with the Municipality, "the reconstruction of the entire tramway, with 10lbs. steel girders bonded with copper ready for electric traction in place of the original 56lbs. iron rails, is being pushed forward as rapidly as the traffic will permit." Of course, if the shareholders are satisfied to go without dividends, the work of reconstruction can doubtless go on without much difficulty albeit the spur may have to be applied, and it is Hobson's choice with them; but there is no doubt that had not attention been so publicly directed to their shortcomings, the company would not have hurried themselves in this direction. At the same time in dealing with the company the Municipality must bear in mind that it is not at their mercy, that it is not moribund, and that there is life in it yet. If the company put its house in order, the Commissioners can do nothing, and apparently this is what the company intend to do. The Municipality no doubt entered into an unconscionable bargain with the tramway concessionaries in the first instance; but they did so in the broad open day; and cannot, therefore, complain, so long as the Tramway company perform their part of it. They should bear this in mind in any arrangements now proposed for amelioration of the purchase conditions.

PUBLIC COMPANY MEETINGS.

THE EMPIRE OF INDIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

THE first annual general meeting of shareholders was held yesterday at the registered office, Esplanade Road, the Hon. Mr. P. M. Mehta, C.I.E., presiding. The directors' report was as follows:—

"The directors have pleasure in submitting their report for the year ending 28th February 1898, together with the revenue accounts and balance-sheet for the period, which show that the company had made very satisfactory progress. The company was registered on the 21st November 1896, but only commenced to do business on the 1st March 1897. The directors, being of opinion that sufficient capital has been obtained, have decided that no further shares be issued. During the year 728 life proposals were made to the company for assuring sums amounting to Rs. 19,83,000. Of this number 490 have resulted in policies and the remainder have either been declined or accepted on terms which have not been acceded to by the proposers or awaiting completion. The total assurances effected during the year amounted to Rs. 10,59,000, and the annual premiums in respect of which amounted to Rs. 49,041-11-0, which results compare most favourably with that of the first year's working of other life offices. The aim of the directors has been to build up a thoroughly sound, permanent business rather than to endeavour to do a large amount which is generally effected at a cost out of all proportion to the value derived from it and the risks have been most carefully selected as is evidenced by the fact that the company has suffered no loss amongst the lives assured. Notwithstanding the fact that the cost of the first year's operations of a life office is naturally very heavy, the aggregate expenditure of conducting the business only amounted to Rs. 25,751-4-9. If this aggregate be set against the premium income the ratio comes out as 52·5 for the first year—a result which is rarely equalled even by any older company. The balance on the working amounts to the satisfactory figure of Rs. 25,535-2-4. Out of this amount your directors propose to write off Rs. 7,530-0-0 being the whole of the preliminary expenses. Your directors are assured this is the only life office that has written off the whole of the preliminary expenses during the first year of its existence.

FIDELITY GUARANTEE BRANCH.

"This business has made a satisfactory commencement and promises well for the future. Bonds aggregating Rs. 29,900 have been issued and the annual premiums in respect thereof amount to Rs. 238-5. Agencies have been established and valuable connections have been formed in various parts of the Indian Empire, Burma and Ceylon. It is with deep regret the directors have to report the loss by death last September of their esteemed colleague, the late Hon'ble Mr. Abdalla M. Dharamsi, who was connected with the company from its formation, and whose influence and cooperation largely promoted its prosperity. The directors filled up the vacancy on the board thus created by appointing Mr. C. C. Plinston, a policyholder as well as a shareholder, and you are asked to confirm his appointment. Under the provisions of the articles of association Mr. Chubildas Lalloobhoy and Mr. D. Gostling retire from office as directors at the general meeting, but are eligible for re-election. Mr. J. P. Cornforth also retires from office as auditor, but is eligible for re-election. The directors, on the advice of the consulting actuary, recommend a dividend of per cent. per annum to shareholders for the past year. The board of directors desire the co-operation of the shareholders and policyholders in pointing out to their friends the benefits of life assurance and the very favourable terms on which assurances may be obtained in this company."

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, congratulated the company on its achievements during the first year and drew attention to the fact that its funds are invested in accordance with the Trust Act, thus giving the best security to the policy holders. Agencies had been established throughout India, Burmah, and Ceylon, and the assistant manager had lately been on an extensive tour opening out the business of the company. The results were highly satisfactory. The greatest care had been taken in the selection of business, and owing to the strictness of the medical examinations, many lives had been thrown out. The company was most economically managed, and the expenses were far below those of other offices. He complimented the company in having secured the services of Mr. Allum and Mr. Bharucha as manager and assistant manager. They were most zealous and conscientious in promoting the interests of the company, and to them much of its success was due. (Applause.)

The report and audited accounts were received and adopted. A dividend of Rs. 3 per annum, free of income tax, was declared for last year on the paid-up capital. The appointment of Mr. Geo. C. Plinston as a director was confirmed. Messrs. Chubildas Lalloobhoy and D. Gostling, who retired by rotation, were re-elected directors.

Mr. Spencer, in proposing the re-election of Mr. Chubildas Lalloobhoy and Mr. Gostling as directors, said the report showed how well the directors had worked during the first year, and they might safely be entrusted with their confidence again.

Mr. J. P. Cornforth was elected auditor at a remuneration of Rs. 100. The thanks of the meeting were accorded to the medical advisers for their care in the examination of lives during the past year.

Dr. Bahadurji in acknowledging the vote of thanks on behalf of the medical advisers, said that the examinations of this company were undoubtedly strict as could be seen from the business declined during the past year. The company was formed on very sound lines and he took the opportunity to congratulate them on the progress it had made and he without hesitation echoed the words of the directors that the expenses were the lowest of any company doing business here. He also congratulated the management on the results obtained. (Applause.)

The special thanks of the meeting were accorded to the chairman and the directors for their great attention to the business of the company during the past year. The thanks of the meeting were given to Mr. E. F. Allum and Mr. R. E. Bharucha, the office staff, and the agents and representatives of the company for their zeal, attention, and services during the past year.

The chairman, in proposing the vote of thanks Mr. Allum and Mr. Bharucha and the agents and officers of the company, said he had alluded to the services of the management and agents when moving the adoption of the report. Dr. Bahadurjee was not given to praise without good cause, but after what he had said there was little left for him to say. He accordingly proposed the passing of the resolution.

Mr. Allum, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said: On my own behalf and on behalf of Mr. Bharucha, the agents and all who are included in this very comprehensive vote, I beg to thank you very heartily for the manner in which this resolution has been proposed and received. The last year, as I supposed all years will continue to be, has been full of difficulties and anxieties. The last year, as you are aware, has been our first year, and this fact in itself is probably responsible for many of the difficulties and anxieties which we have encountered. In spite of every thing we have come safely and successfully through the year, and we have been able to present to you a report and balance sheet, which must be thoroughly satisfactory to the shareholders and policyholders alike. Our chairman has eloquently drawn attention to the advantages offered by this company. These advantages should be well borne in mind, and we trust to every shareholder and policyholder to personally endeavour to extend the usefulness and business of this company. Our rates are lowest consistent with safety, our terms and conditions most liberal. Our expenses are lower than those of any other company; and in addition we offer the advantages of a local company. If our agents and shareholders and all others interested in the company will endeavour generally to increase the business, there is no reason why we should not become one of the largest as we are one of the soundest institutions. At the close of the year's work it is gratifying to us to receive your thanks, and to feel that we share your confidence.

Mr. Plinston, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, congratulated him on his recovery to health and the company in having such a well-known, able and prominent citizen as its chairman.

Dr. Bahadurjee having seconded the resolution, it was carried with a clamation.

THE INDO-CHINA M. G. CO., LD.

THE tenth annual meeting of the shareholders of the above company was held yesterday afternoon at its registered office, Hornby Row, Mr. Gulamhusen Allana Munjee occupying the chair.

Before the commencement of the usual business the chairman said. Before proceeding with the business for which this meeting has been called I beg to refer to the great loss the company has sustained by the premature death of my colleague and chairman the late Hon'ble Mr. Abdulla M. Dhar

WRITERS AND READERS.

A rather noteworthy book of travel is now in course of preparation by Messrs. Pearson. The writer is the Hon. David W. Carnegie, son of the Earl of Southesk He recently made a remarkable journey into the interior of Western Australia and across the great sand deserts of that colony. Mr. Carnegie covered much territory which had never been visited before, and he had many stirring experiences. These he details in this book, which will have a group of vivid illustrations. A title is not actually settled upon yet.

Mr. Bret Harte's volume of "Some Later Verses," is now in print and Messrs. Chatto will issue it soon. The contents are arranged under three general headings "By Pines and Tules," "Reported by Truthful James," and "Little Posterity." It will be seen that Mr. Bret Harte does not desert the characters who previously won fame in his verse. "Truthful James" is to the front with the description of a "spellin' bee at Angels," and with a report of a discussion on silver at the same place. That old favorite, "Brown of Calaveras" has also been revived. The volume is to be tastefully bound in the style coming to be known as "flat backs."

Mr. Stopford Brooke's volume "The New Testament and Modern Life," mentioned here the other day, is not the only literary task on which he has been engaged. He has nearly finished a monograph on early English literature, to the accession of King Alfred, for Messrs. Macmillan. The book is one of a series of four which were designed to form a popular history of the origin and progress of English history. Professor Saintsbury wrote of Elizabethan times and of the nineteenth century, while Mr. Gosse has dealt with the eighteenth century, Mr. Stopford Brook's contribution has been expected with interest, and certainly we shall now have it before long.

Mr. Herbert Spencer is revising his "Principles of Biology" for a new addition, and part of the additional material to be put into it is contained in an article entitled "Cell-Physiology," which he contributes to the May number of "Natural Science." The article belongs to the chapter which will deal with cell-life and cell-multiplication, describing the revelation which late years have witnessed in this branch of the subject. "Study of the facts and hypotheses, as set forth in recent works," remarks Mr Spencer in a prefatory note, in the above magazine, have suggested to me some interpretations which I have not met with. I have thought it as well to publish them now, not waiting for completion of the first volume of the 'Principles of Biology,' as this will be long delayed, even if ill-health does not prevent completion of it." The distinguished philosopher has just entered his seventy-ninth year. "Principles of Biology" was published thirty-one years ago.

Books about books have of late years become quite popular with publishers who, a decade ago, would not have touched this form of literary investment. Several of these series have achieved a quite unlooked-for popularity, and some of the volumes have gone to prove that such volumes can be made both readable and accurate. A fresh enterprise is to be started shortly under the title of "The Literary Series of Practical Books About Books," the general editor being Mr. J. H. Slater, whose "Book-Prices Current" has long become an indispensable classic, and who has written very extensively on the subject of books generally. The initial volume, by the editor, is to be entitled "The Library Cyclopædia," and this will be followed by a succession of monographs treating of the works of the older English authors, and of those representative of the last and present century; of sporting and illustrated books; works on art, archæology, history, drama, poetical works, voyages, travels, old bibles and prayer books, Americana, and a variety of other branches of literature interesting to collectors and men of letters. Each book is to be illustrated, is to contain the average auction prices of each work described, and the subscription price will be 5s. 6d. per volume.

The Hon. Mrs. Henniker is just publishing, through Messrs. Harper, a novel with the title "Sowing the Sand." Mrs. Henniker, who belongs to a family with literary traditions, has now written several successful books. This new one is a story of life among the upper and middle classes of England. It depicts more than one wasted career, with incidents of the messroom, the racecourse, and the country house. Mrs. Henniker brings into contrast the busy energy of an industrial town and the busy idleness of those who seek only to be amused. The tale is no tragedy but "a mingled yarn," in which the good and ill of the world meet each other.

Not long ago there appeared in "Harpers" a number of articles describing the Mexico of to-day and the Mexicans. The writer, Mr. Charles F. Lummis, has now gathered them into a volume which Messrs. Harper are to publish under the title "The Awakening of a Nation." Mr. Lummis says of the papers that if hurried they are not hasty, and that if friendly towards Mexico it is not by ignorance. Addressing his own countrymen in particular, he remarks that he will be pleased if the book helps any American to a more neighborly feeling for Mexico. The pictures, which are numerous, include portraits of President Diaz and of his wife, who is known, it seems, as the "idol of Mexico."

Charles Reade's novel, 'The Cloister and the Hearth appeared originally in four volumes, at half-a-guinea each. Some years ago we had an edition in as many divisions, at three and sixpence a volume. That edition Messrs. Chatto are about to reprint, this time at eighteenpence per volume. It was in 1861 that "The Cloister and the Hearth" was published, and since then it has sold, in one form or another, an enormous number of copies. Within the first year of publication the novel went into three editions in the four-volume form. The following year it came out in three volumes, and there are various editions of it in single volume.

A couple of books are promised by Messrs. Kegan Paul within the next few weeks. One is called "Colloquy and Song," and is by Mr. B. J. M. Don, a Devonshire man. The idea is that of a group of sportsmen, with literary tastes, who meet of evenings for talk with an occasional song thrown in. As a result of those "Noctes" we are given interesting disquisitions on the country and country life. The second book may be said to pertain to the Celtic Renaissance. It is by Mr. J. A. Goodchild, has the title "The Light of the West," and is a history of early Celtic myths. Mr. Goodchild recently wrote a volume telling the history of Tephi, a Celtic Queen.

At the beginning of June we shall see the book about Harrow School which Mr. Edward Arnold has in the press. It is likely to prove a very readable account of the origin and history of an institution which has played no small part in our national life. There is an interesting preface by Earl Spencer, who is chairman of the governors of the school. Various Old Harrovians and several Harrow masters contribute articles and reminiscences; for example, Dr. Butler, Lord Crewe, Bishop Jenner, Mr. Walter Long and Mr. Welldon. The work of editing has been done by Mr. E. W. Howson and Mr. Townsend Warner, while Mr. Herbert Marshall has prepared a series of special drawings.

Complaint has been made from time to time that no text-book of botany exists which is quite suitable to the wants of the student of agriculture. He wishes a manual that shall be more than scientific treatise—something on agricultural botany to which he may turn for practical guidance. Messrs. Blackwood publish one the other day from the German. Another is now being written by Mr. John Percevil, the Professor of Botany at the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, and it will be published by Messrs. Duckworth in the autumn. The contents are based on several years' experience in teaching and lecturing to students, farmers, and gardeners. Of the illustrations, most have been drawn or photographed by the author from living specimens.

Mr. Fisher Unwin will have two books of fiction ready within the next few days. One is by Mr. William Platt, a new writer, and has the title Men, Women, and Chance." There are two tories here, the first sentimental, the second referring to high finance. The other book is also by a new writer, Mr. Alexander Davis, who has lived for years in Swaziland. His story is a study of native life and customs there. The hero is a chief who rejoices in the name "Umbandine," which name also furnishes the title for the volume. The heroine, though black, is comely.

The yachting season on our coasts is now within sight, and in view of that, Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein are preparing a couple of little pocke volumes One of these describes itself in the title, "The Solent Chart Book." The contents are maps which show the yachting man all he could wish to know of the Solent waters. Harbors, tides, buoys, and such matters are treated clearly and accurately. "Down Channel Tide Tables" is the title of the second volume. This booklet, of course, is for the present year, and will be issued anew annually.

The new novel by Miss Menie Muriel Dowie (Mrs. Henry Norman). "The Crook of the Bough," will be published, to-morrow by Messrs. Methuen in London, and Messrs. Chas. Scribner's Sons in New York.—Messrs. Chatto announce a novel by Mrs. Meade entitled. "On the Brink of a Chasm."—Mr. Elkin Mathews will this week publish a romance by Miss M. H. Bourchier, the author of "The Cid Major of Life." Her new story is "the Adventures of a Goldsmith."—Mr. Firth Scott's story of mystery and adventure in Western Australia. "The Last Lemurian" will be published by Mr. James Bowden on Monday. Mr. Heinemann will publish on May 2nd "The Dull Miss Archinard," a novel by a new writer, Miss A. D. Sedgwick. The personages of the story are English, but the action takes place for the most part in Paris, where Miss. Sedgwick has resided for some time as an art student.—Mrs. Oliphant's posthumous volume "A. Widow's Tale, and Other Stories," is hardly likely to appear before the autumn. It may have an interesting preface.

INSIDE HAVANA.

A TIMELY article by Mr. Richard Davey appears in the "Fortnightly Review" under the title of Havana and the Havanese." The writer has studied his subject on the spot, and his account of the Cuban capital is life-like and entertaining. Havana seems to be, on the whole, a rather pleasant city to dwell in or to visit. The population is about 230,000, and the town has all the appliances and comforts of civilisation, except first-class hotels, which are non-existent. The atmosphere is bright, and, except in the yellow fever season, the climate appears to be healthy; "in spite of the wretched system of drainage, you rarely come across a foul smell, except in that hot-bed of yellow fever, the 'market place.' Life is lived much in the open air, and the better houses generally possess a garden, "rich in tropical vegetation shading either a fountain or a large gilded aviary full of brilliant parrots and parrakeets." The town is remarkably well supplied with public and private carriages, and in regard to cab regulations may offer a lesson to London. An excellent "victoria de plaza" may be hired for a franc and a half an hour. "To avoid extortion from the cab-drivers, the lamp-posts are painted various colours, red for the central district, blue for the second circle, and green for the outer. Thus, in a trice, the fare becomes aware when he gets beyond the radies, and pays accordingly. Trouble with the Havana hack coachman, usually a coloured man, and very civil, is of the rarest occurrence.

The Church, with its ceremonial observances, is much in evidence in Havana, though Mr. Davey makes the sweeping remark that, "as elsewhere in South America, religion has become a mere affair of ceremony and outward observance, with little or no moral influence." Here is a story of irtation in church:—

I remember one Sunday morning, in the Cathedral of Havana, being initiated by a friend into the mysteries of fan language. We watched a young lady, and extremely good looking and richly apparelled, who, after she had said her preliminary devotions, looked round her as if seeking somebody. Presently she opened her fan very wide, which, as the Cuban who was with us at the time assured us, meant 'I see you. Then she half closed it, this indicated Come and see me.' Four fingers were next placed upon the upper half of the closed fan, signifying, 'At half-past hour.' The fan was next dropped upon the floor, which, we were told, signified the fact that the lady could be alone. A Havanese lady who is expert in this system of signalling can talk, by the hour with the help of her fan, and of a bunch of variously coloured flowers, each of which has some special meaning."

From the church to the theatre; the Havanese are, it is scarcely needful to say, inveterate amusement-hunters. They have a splendid opera-house, the Tacon, the finest and largest theatre in the Southern Hemisphere. This is an aristocratic house, and the performances are little different from what may be witnessed in Nice, Rome, or Naples. Immediately opposite to the Tacon is a popular theatre, the Payrete, largely patronised by the coloured people.

An outlandish orchestra, consuming of the usual horns and tom-toms, bangs a wild, savage melody, with a kind of irregular rhythm, marking time, but without the faintest vestige of tune. The couple stand and jig, facing each other occasionally in a manner which is better left undescribed, but usually with a solemnity defying all description. Now and again the male dancers utter piercing whoop, and the couples forthwith change sides. It is impossible to conceive that fun or amusement can be extracted from such a monotonous performance. But that these good people do find enjoyment in it cannot be questioned, since they frequently continue performing this dance, which is known as the 'Cuban,' for many hours at a stretch without moving a yard from the spot where they began. Meanwhile the barbaric orchestra bangs ever, making noise enough to raise the dead—tom-tom whack, tom-tom wick, tom-tomwhoop—'da da capo' It ends by maddening the European ear, and the onlooker is forced to bolt or risk an epileptic seizure or some such misfortune."

Throughout Cuba the bull ring and the cock-pit are popular institutions, and Mr. Davey gives a striking description of a cock fight. It is time, however, to turn to more serious topics. The population of Cuba numbers about a million and a half, about one-third being coloured. Mr. Davey divides the people into five distinct categories—the Cubanos or Cubans, the Creoles, the Spaniards, the foreigners, and lastly, the coloured folk, who vary in complexion "from ebony to the daintiest cream colour."

"The Cubans are the descendants of Spaniards who have resided not less than three generations on the island, and even they are disdained by certain well-known families, who can boast their ascent to the early settlers of the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries. As a matter of fact, however, for certain reasons too lengthy to explain, it is only in our time that the distinction of Cubano has been given to anyone born outside the walls of the city of Santiago de Cuba. The Cubanos retain many of the characteristics of their ancestors, and are a lithe, active, handsome, and highly intelligent people. On the other hand, they possess most of the feline and cruel qualities of the Spaniards. That they are brave is proved by the number of heroic leaders they have furnished the rebellion."

Mr. Davey has sojourned in Cuban interiors, and speaks highly of the courteous and kind hospitality which he received. But, he says, "I shall never forget the contrast between the splendid hospitality which I myself enjoyed on a Cuban plantation and the horrid sights which I witnessed in its coffee fields, where the negroes were whipped by the overseers for the most trivial offences." A story which the writer tells on this subject is almost too horrible to quote:—

A strikingly handsome young mulatto had escaped into the woods and had been recaptured. For nearly a week he was tortured every day regularly for two hours and in the presence of all the other hands, and, needless to say, in that of his master. I chanced one afternoon to go for a walk, accompanied by one of the children of the family, a lad of twelve years, who thoughtlessly asked me to come and see what they were 'doing to Pedro.' They were flaying him alive with pincers, burning him with hot wires, and rubbing his wounds with saltpetre! The poor wretch, who was shrieking desperately and writhing in agony, was tied hand and foot to the stump of a tree. The strangest part of it all was that the niggers, for whose intimidation this diabolical torture, which eventually ended in slow death, had been devised, did not seem to be particularly impressed by its horror, for they were laughing and shouting like so many fiends."

Mr. Davey holds the balance fairly between Spain and the United States. He fully admits the misgovernment which has prevailed in Cuba, as well as the shortcomings and vices of the people, but he holds that the accounts published in the United States and in this country of the lives that have been lost are greatly exaggerated. "The Cubans are not all angels any more than the Spaniards are all fiends. Of this we may be sure—400,000 people have not been killed or starved to death in Cuba, for the total population is only about 1,500,000. Taking the distressful state of the island into consideration, we cannot doubt that many thousands of people have died of want and fever, but certainly not more than 75,000." Like most people who know anything of the subject, Mr. Davey is not hopeful of Cuba's future. He believes that after the war "this beautiful island will soon recall, only too forcibly, the famous story of the cats of Kilkenny—not even their tails will be left to tell the tale of anarchy, massacre, and woe."

DIVINE SERVICE.

ASCENSION DAY, THURSDAY, MAY 19.

ST. JOHN EVANGELIST CHURCH, COLABA
Afghan Memorial Church.

7-30 a.m.—Celebration of Holy Communion.
6 p.m.—Evensong.

MISSION CHURCH, GIRGAUM.

6 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon by Rev. W. G. Peel—Hymns 215, 220 and 225.

CHRIST CHURCH, BYCULLA.

7-30 a.m.—Matins
8 a.m.—Choral Communion. Hymns 149, 141, 313 and 324.
8 p.m.—Choral Evensong and Sermon. Hymns 149, 202, 150 and 147.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.
Bombay, 17th May, 1898.

Means of observations taken at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected for Instr. Err.	inches 29·765
Temperature of the Air	degrees 85·7
Wet Bulb Thermometer	77·0
Dew Point	73·7
Relative humidity of Air	·678
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded=10)	0·6
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m. next day	degrees 90·6
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.)	80·3
General Directions of wind	WNW, NNW, WNW.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours*	miles 182

* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS,
Director, Government Observatory

THE "Popolo Romano" announces that Signor Brin has given orders for the laying down of three large armoured cruisers at Spezia, Castellamare and Venice They will be from his own design, and will probably resemble the Powerful. The displacement will be 13,000 tons and the speed twenty knots. The private yards at Leghorn and Genoa will be kept occupied by the replacing of the Varese and Garibaldi. The offer made by Messrs. Orland, when it was proposed to cede the Varese to the Argentine Republic, was to build a cruiser of superior quality for the Italian Government somewhat longer, with water-tube boilers developing 500 horse-power in excess, and more powerful armament. The "Popolo" estimates the gain to the State at 1,070,000 lire.

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is a perfect tonic; it braces up the system to resist Neuralgia, Colds and Influenza; it keeps the healthy well, and strengthens invalids. A perfect essence of Beef; its effect upon the system is lasting, not transitory like alcoholic stimulants. In the Kitchen it provides the essential features of good Cookery—appetising flavour, nourishment and digestibility.
Note this Signature in BLUE on every Jar.
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For INDIA and all HOT CLIMATES this sweetly scented emollient Milk is INVALUABLE
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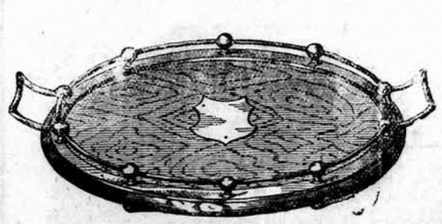
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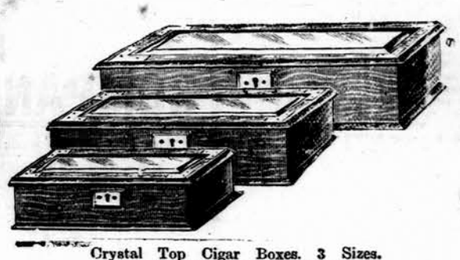
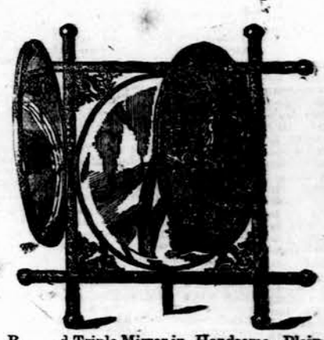

Crystal Top Cigar Boxes. 3 Sizes. Polished Oak, Lined Cedar, Rs. 25, 30 and 35.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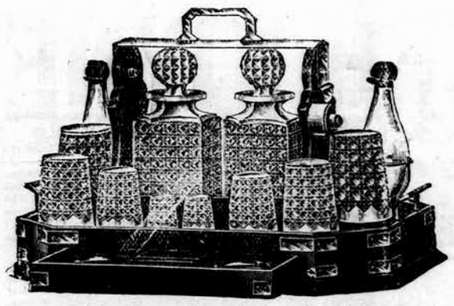
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